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#111

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP



THE HANDS OF SHANG-CHI.

MASTER OF KUNG FU



TM



GENE
DAY



SCOTTIE

A Cracker Jack story

OKAY, SCOTTIE! THE SCORE IS TIED, BASES LOADED, AND TWO OUTS! GET IN THERE AND SHOW 'EM WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF.



STRIKE ONE!

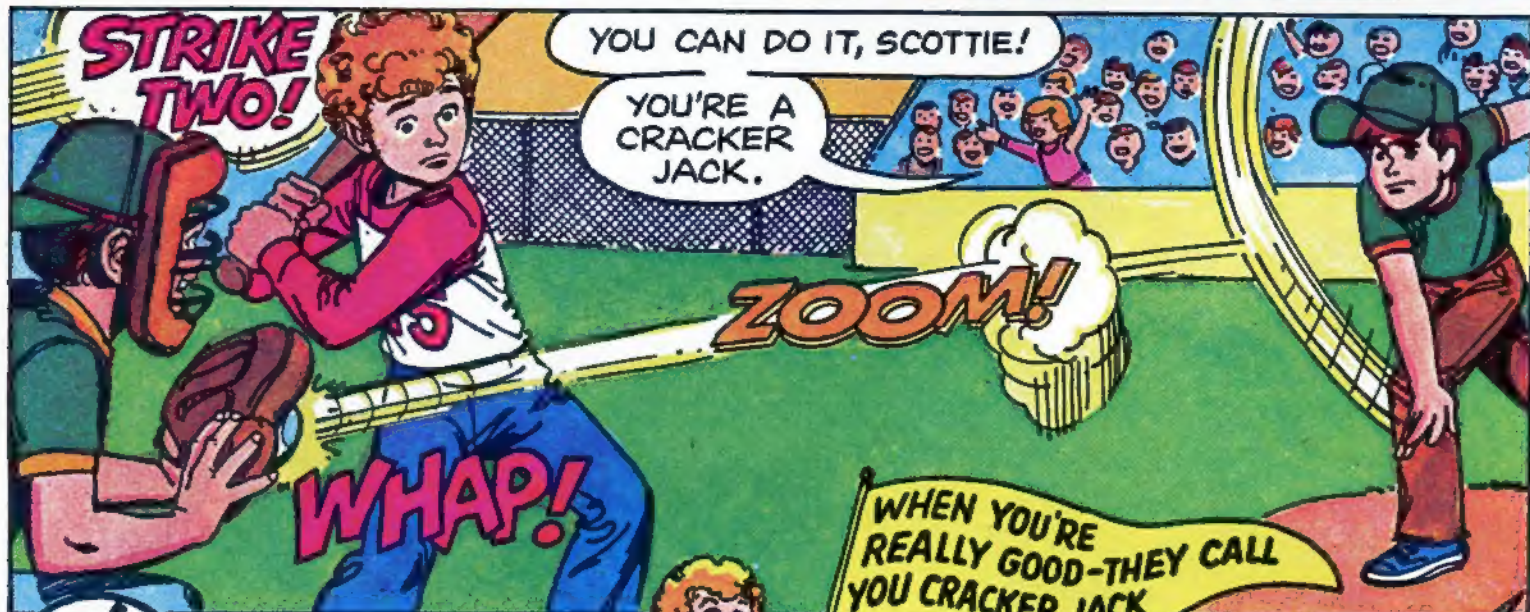
GULP! WHAT IF I STRIKE OUT???



STRIKE TWO!

YOU CAN DO IT, SCOTTIE!

YOU'RE A CRACKER JACK.



WHEN YOU'RE REALLY GOOD-THEY CALL YOU CRACKER JACK



YOU DID IT, SCOTTIE.

WE WON THE PLAYOFFS!

WHAT A CRACKER JACK!



Crunchy caramel-coated popcorn and peanuts and a secret toy surprise!



"Call me Shang-Chi, as my father did, when he raised me in the vacuum of his Honan, China retreat. I learned many things from my father: that my name means 'The Rising and Advancing of a Spirit,' and that my body could be forged into a living weapon through the discipline of kung fu. Since then, I have learned that my father is Dr. Fu Manchu, the most insidiously evil man on Earth... and that to honor him would bring nothing but dishonor to the spirit of my name."

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

MASTER OF KUNG FU!

Featuring supporting characters created by SAX ROHMER

DEADLY RAIN

"WE ALL CHASE SOMETHING SOME REASON FOR LIVING. FOR SOME IT IS THE PURSUIT OF LOVE, WHILE OTHERS PURSUE WEALTH OR FAME. STILL OTHERS SEEK COMFORT OR PEACE, FRANTICALLY."

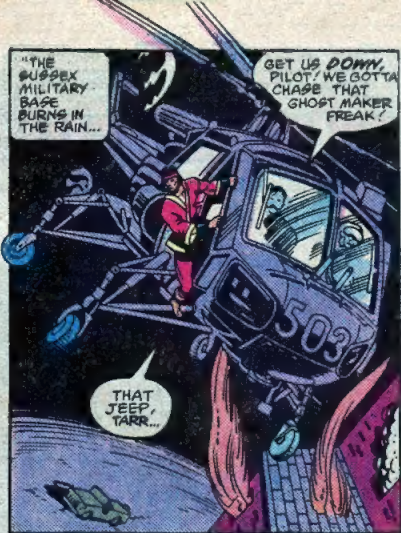
"FINALLY, THERE ARE THOSE WHO QUEST AFTER THE EFFORTLESS PERFECTION OF THE SOUL AND SPIRIT."

"BUT WE ALL CHASE SOMETHINGS-- UNTIL THE CHASE ITSELF BECOMES THE SOLE REASON FOR LIVING..."

"...EACH OF US, IN THE LONG PROCESS OF STRIVING, GAINING SLOWLY ON DEATH."

DOUG MOENCH
SCRIPT/PLOT
GENE DAY
ART/PLOT
ABEL, MAGYAR, RUBINSTEIN
INKERS
CHRISTIE SCHEELE
COLORS
JANICE CHIANG
LETTERS
RALPH MACCHIO
EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

CONCLUSION:
GAINING SLOWLY ON DEATH



"THE SUSSEX MILITARY BASE BURNS IN THE RAIN..."

GET US DOWN, PILOT. WE GOTTA CHASE THAT GHOST MAKER FREAK.

THAT JEEP TARR...



RIGHT, CHI.

WE'RE ON ENOUGH NOW...

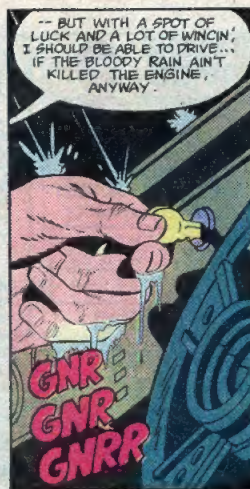


NO TIME TO WAIT FOR A SLOW SHOPPER PILOT TO-- AGHH! WRENCHED ME BLOODY BACK AGAIN!



ARE YOU--

LET'S JUST SAY I AIN'T IN NO CONDITION TO RUN A MARATHON RACE --



GNR
GNR
GNRR

-- BUT WITH A SPOT OF LUCK AND A LOT OF WINCH, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO DRIVE... IF THE BLOODY RAIN AIN'T KILLED THE ENGINE, ANYWAY.



vrooom

BINGO! AND WITH ANOTHER PAB O' LUCK, WE'LL OVERTAKE GHOST MAKER BEFORE HE SLAPS THE IGN ON HIS ESCAPE.

THAT JETPACK HE'S USIN' AIN'T POWERFUL ENOUGH FOR TWO-- THE EXTRA WEIGHT'LL BLOW HIM DOWN...

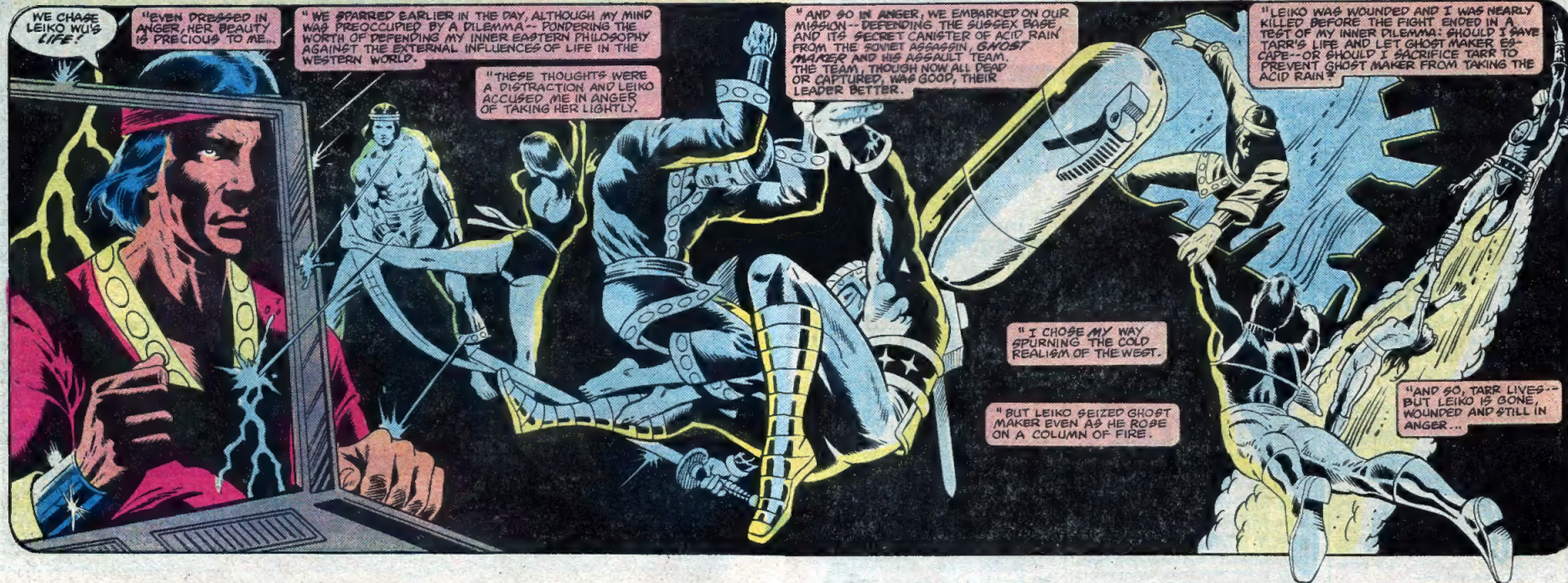


STILL, AFTER THE WAY HE PULLED OFF HIS ASSAULT ON THIS FORTRESS-- AND THE THEFT OF THE SECRET WEAPON-- WE CAN'T COUNT HIM OUT YET.

AND DON'T FORGET THE NATURE OF THAT WEAPON, CHINAMAN-- A CANISTER OF "ACID RAIN"-- SEED A CLOUD WITH IT AND THE RAINFALL EATS FLESH FROM BONE...

ON TOP OF THAT, ACCORDING TO DARK ANGEL'S INSIDE KGB INFO, GHOST MAKER INTENDS TO RAIN ON THE QUEEN'S PARADE.

YES, TARR, BUT WE CHASE MORE THAN A STOLEN WEAPON NOW...



WE CHASE LEIKO WU'S LIFE.

"EVEN DRESSED IN ANGER, HER BEAUTY IS PRECIOUS TO ME..."

"WE SPARRED EARLIER IN THE DAY, ALTHOUGH MY MIND WAS PREOCCUPIED BY A DILEMMA-- Pondering the worth of defending my inner eastern philosophy against the external influences of life in the western world."

"THESE THOUGHTS WERE A DISTRACTION AND LEIKO ACCUSED ME IN ANGER OF TAKING HER LIGHTLY."

"AND SO IN ANSWER, WE EMBARKED ON OUR MISSION-- DEFENDING THE SUSSEX BASE AND ITS SECRET CANISTER OF ACID RAIN FROM THE SOVIET ASSASSIN, GHOST MAKER AND HIS ASSAULT TEAM. THE TEAM, THOUGH NOW ALL DEAD OR CAPTURED, WAS GOOD, THEIR LEADER BETTER."

"I CHOSE MY WAY SPURNING THE COLD REALISM OF THE WEST."

"BUT LEIKO SEIZED GHOST MAKER EVEN AS HE ROSE ON A COLUMN OF FIRE."

"LEIKO WAS WOUNDED AND I WAS NEARLY KILLED BEFORE THE FIGHT ENDED IN A TEST OF MY INNER DILEMMA: SHOULD I SAVE TARR'S LIFE AND LET GHOST MAKER ESCAPE-- OR SHOULD I SACRIFICE TARR TO PREVENT GHOST MAKER FROM TAKING THE ACID RAIN?"

"AND SO, TARR LIVES-- BUT LEIKO IS GONE, WOUNDED AND STILL IN ANGER..."

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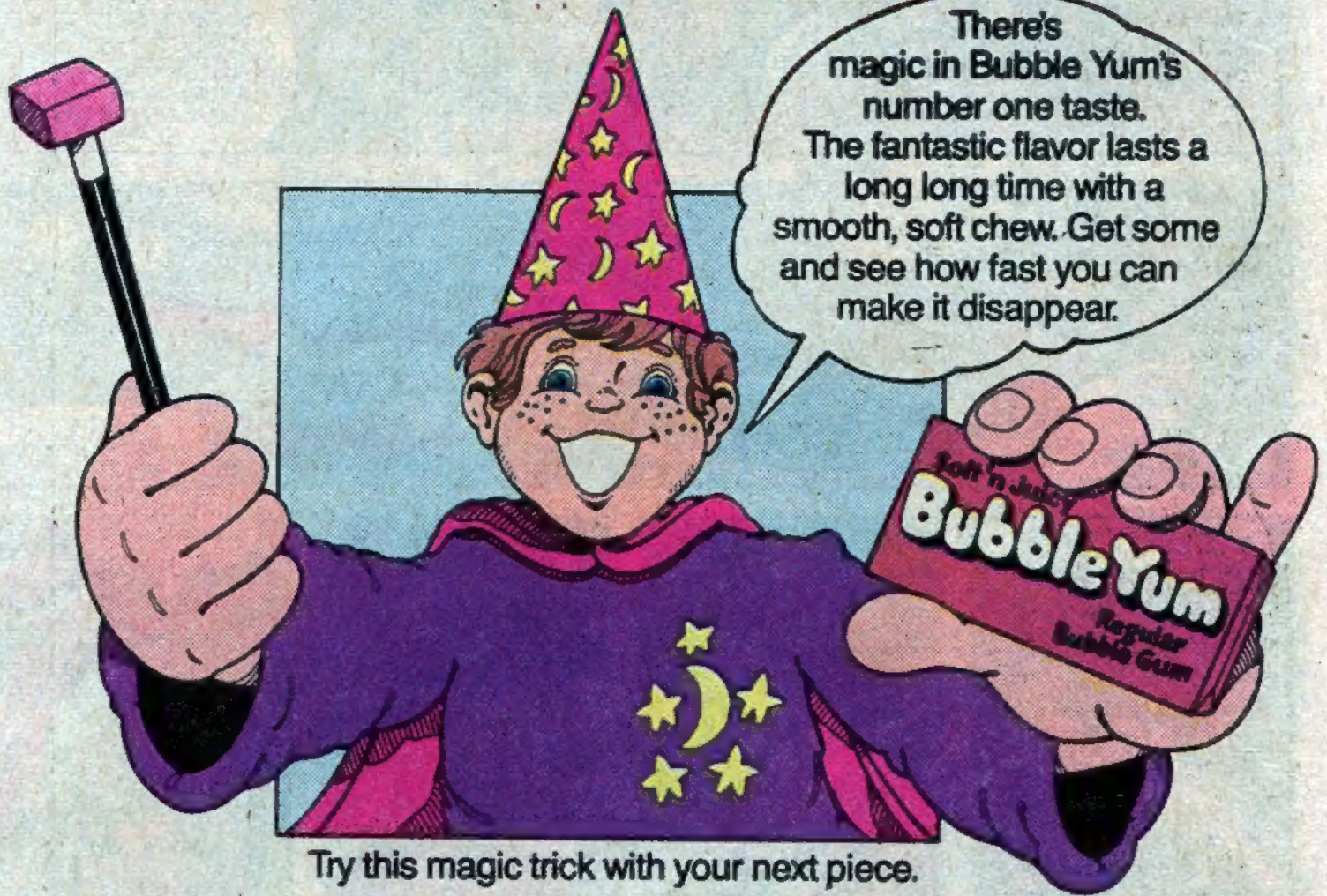
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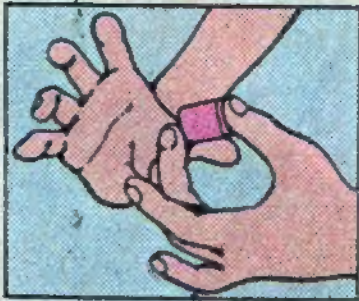
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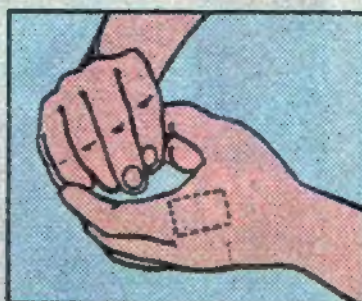
Try this magic trick with your next piece.



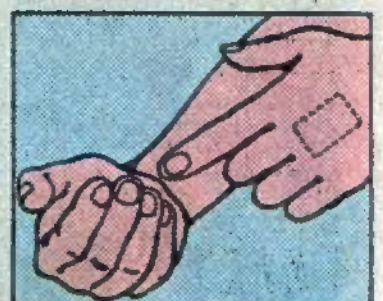
Hold the Bubble Yum between the thumb and middle finger of your left hand.



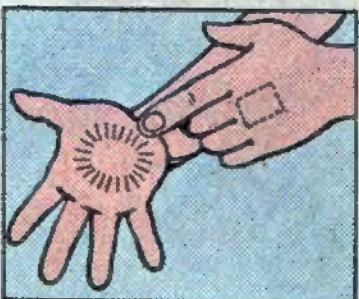
Pretend to grab it with your right hand while you really drop it into the palm of your left hand.



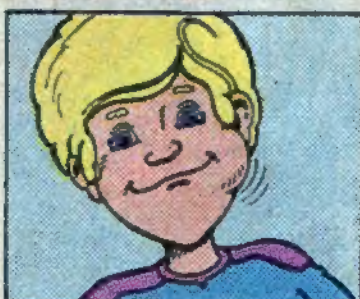
Keep the fingers of your right hand loose as if they had the gum.



Point with the left hand while you secretly hold the gum in your palm.



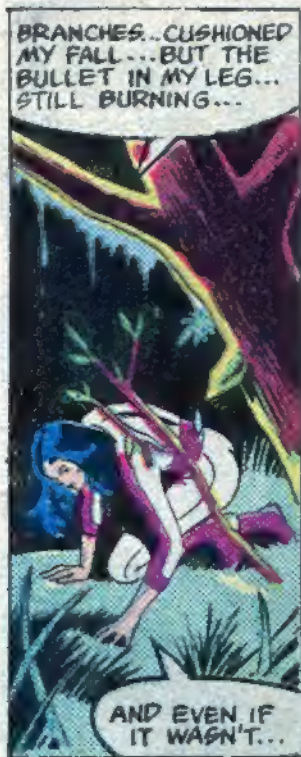
Say "Presto chango!" and open your right hand to show that the Bubble Yum has magically disappeared.



Then you can make the Bubble Yum disappear the easy way—and try the number one taste.







BRANCHES...CUSHIONED MY FALL...BUT THE BULLET IN MY LEG... STILL BURNING...

AND EVEN IF IT WASN'T...



RUNNING AFTER HIM-- LET ALONE HOPPING, WOULD DO NO GOOD



WELL, YOU TRIED LITTLE LEIKO. THESE DAYS IT SEEMS YOU'RE ALWAYS TRYING...

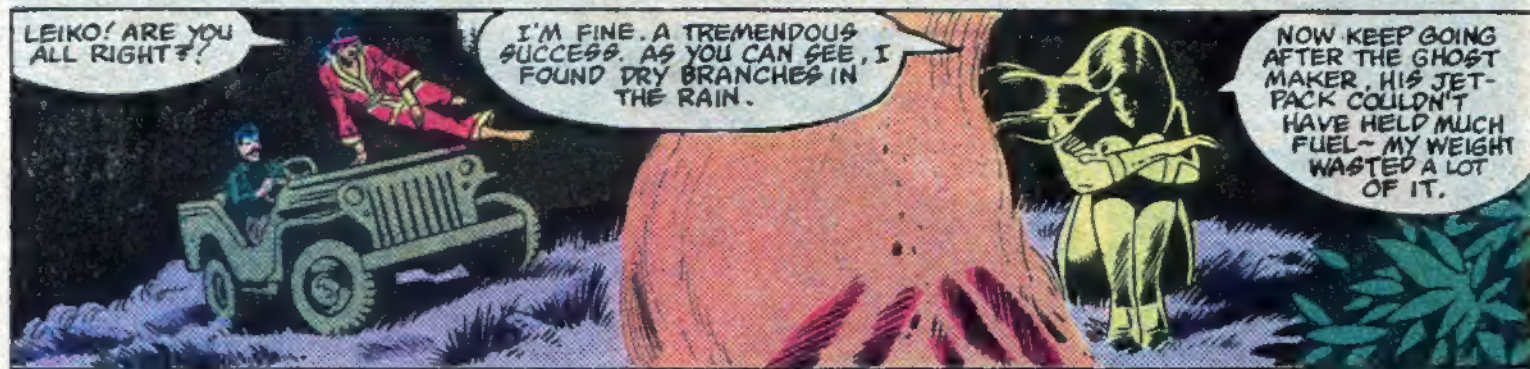


AND ALWAYS FAILING.



I WAS SURE THEY CAME DOWN OVER THOSE TREES, BUT WHERE THE BLOODY--?

THERE, TARR-- SMOKE!



LEIKO! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

I'M FINE. A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS. AS YOU CAN SEE, I FOUND DRY BRANCHES IN THE RAIN.

NOW KEEP GOING AFTER THE GHOST MAKER. HIS JET- PACK COULDN'T HAVE HELD MUCH FUEL-- MY WEIGHT WASTED A LOT OF IT.



BUT WHERE, WU? HOW DO WE KNOW WHICH WAY TO GO AFTER HIM?

"HER HAND IS LIMP IN MINE.

HIS TARGET IS THE QUEEN, BLACK JACK-- AND SHE'S SCHEDULED FOR A STATE VISIT IN FRANCE IN SOME SIX HOURS!



OH... I FORGOT ABOUT THAT! THEY'LL PROBABLY HAVE A PARADE FOR HER-- AND SHE CAN'T GET ANY MORE VULNERABLE THAN THAT...

WE'VE GOTTA STOP HIM BEFORE HE REACHES FRANCE.

HIS JETPACK PROBABLY HAD JUST ENOUGH FUEL TO REACH THE ENGLISH CHANNEL-- BUT NOW THAT HE'S WASTED SOME, HE WON'T MAKE IT.

IF YOU CAN BEAT HIM TO THE CHANNEL...



AND IF WE HAD A PHONE TUCKED IN ONE OF THESE BLOODY TREES... OR IF THE JEEP HAD A RADIO IN IT... WE WOULDN'T EVEN HAVE TO CHASE HIM...

WE COULD JUST SET UP A WELCOMING PARTY AT THE CHANNEL....

NO--EVEN IF WE HAD THE MEANS TO CALL AHEAD, WE COULDN'T RISK IT. WHAT IF HE TOOK AN ALTERNATE ROUTE?

NO... YOU'VE GOT TO PURSUE HIM-- AND KEEP HIM IN SIGHT-- NOW!

YES... BUT FIRST YOU AND I MUST SETTLE SOMETHING, LEIKO...

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? THERE'S SOMETHING BIGGER AT STAKE HERE AND NOW-- AND I MEAN NOW! THE QUEEN MAY DIE IF YOU DON'T MOVE YOUR LEAN AND SINEWY BODY--

IN FACT, I'M ONLY GOING TO GET ANGRIER! BLAST IT, SHANG, ISN'T OUR LOVE SECURE ENOUGH TO SURVIVE AN OCCASIONAL TIFF?

--AND JUST AS FAST AS IT CAN BLOODY WELL MOVE! NOW GET GOING!

VERY WELL-- BUT SINCE YOU'RE WOUNDED, TARR WILL REMAIN HERE WITH YOU.

NOW WAIT JUST A SECOND, CHINAMAN! IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO--

YOU ARE MY FRIEND, TARR, BUT THIS IS ONE POINT I CANNOT ARGUE. EITHER YOU REMAIN HERE UNTIL HELP COMES... OR NO ONE PURSUES GHOST MAKER.

BESIDES, YOU ARE ALSO INJURED-- YOUR BACK.

OH, AWRIGHT, I'LL STAY-- BUT ARE YA SURE YOU CAN HANDLE THAT JEEP?

JUST WATCH.

WELL, JUST YOU WATCH THE GHOST MAKER. HE'S KILLED TEN OF OUR BEST WITH HIS 'NAKED/KILL' FIGHTING STYLE. HE WAS HANDPICKED AND HE'S BEEN TRAINING FOR FIFTEEN YEARS.

WELL, NOW THAT THAT'S SETTLED, WON'T YOU MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE, MR. TARR?

I ACCEPT THE INVITATION, MISS WU.

BUT I DON'T SUPPOSE YA GOT ANY MARSHMALLOWS IN THE CUPBOARD...?

IF YOU MEAN AM I STILL ANGRY BECAUSE OF OUR SPARRING SESSION, THE ANSWER IS YES--AND THAT ANSWER'S NOT GOING TO BE CHANGED BY YOU WASTING TIME HERE TRYING TO MAKE IT BETTER.

"THE CHASE IS LONG, AND SWIFT BUT SLOW..."



"...FOR, WHILE THE JEEP IS FASTER, HIS JETPACK FLIES IN A STRAIGHT LINE..."

"IT IS ALL I DO TO REMAIN ON THE ROAD AND KEEP HIM IN SIGHT."

"BUT AT LEAST THE JEEP'S PETROL TANK IS ALMOST FULL..."

"AND LEIKO WAS RIGHT -- THE FUEL IN HIS JETPACK IS SURELY LIMITED..."



SPUTT

"...AND DESTINED, SOON, TO EXHAUST ITSELF."



PHHT



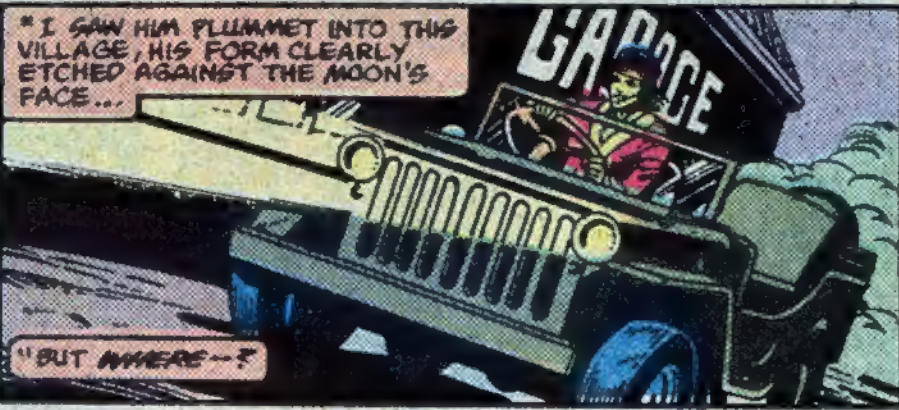
KEESH

HAH!

FORTUNE IS THE DAUGHTER OF HELL... AND EVER SMILES ON THE MAKER OF GHOSTS.

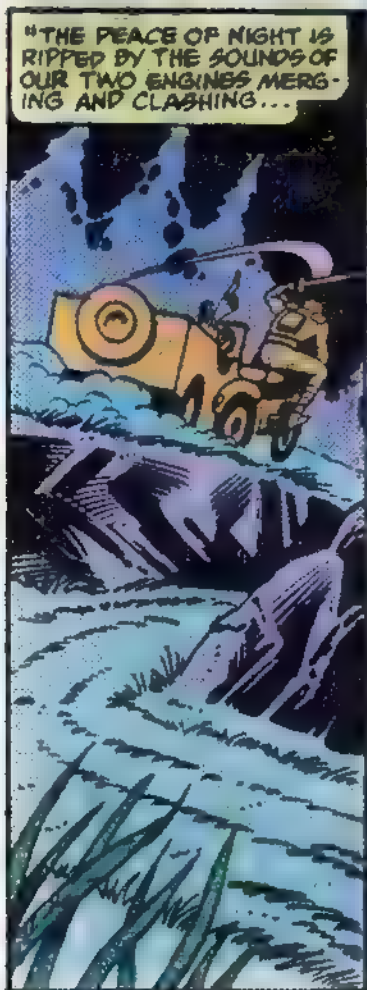
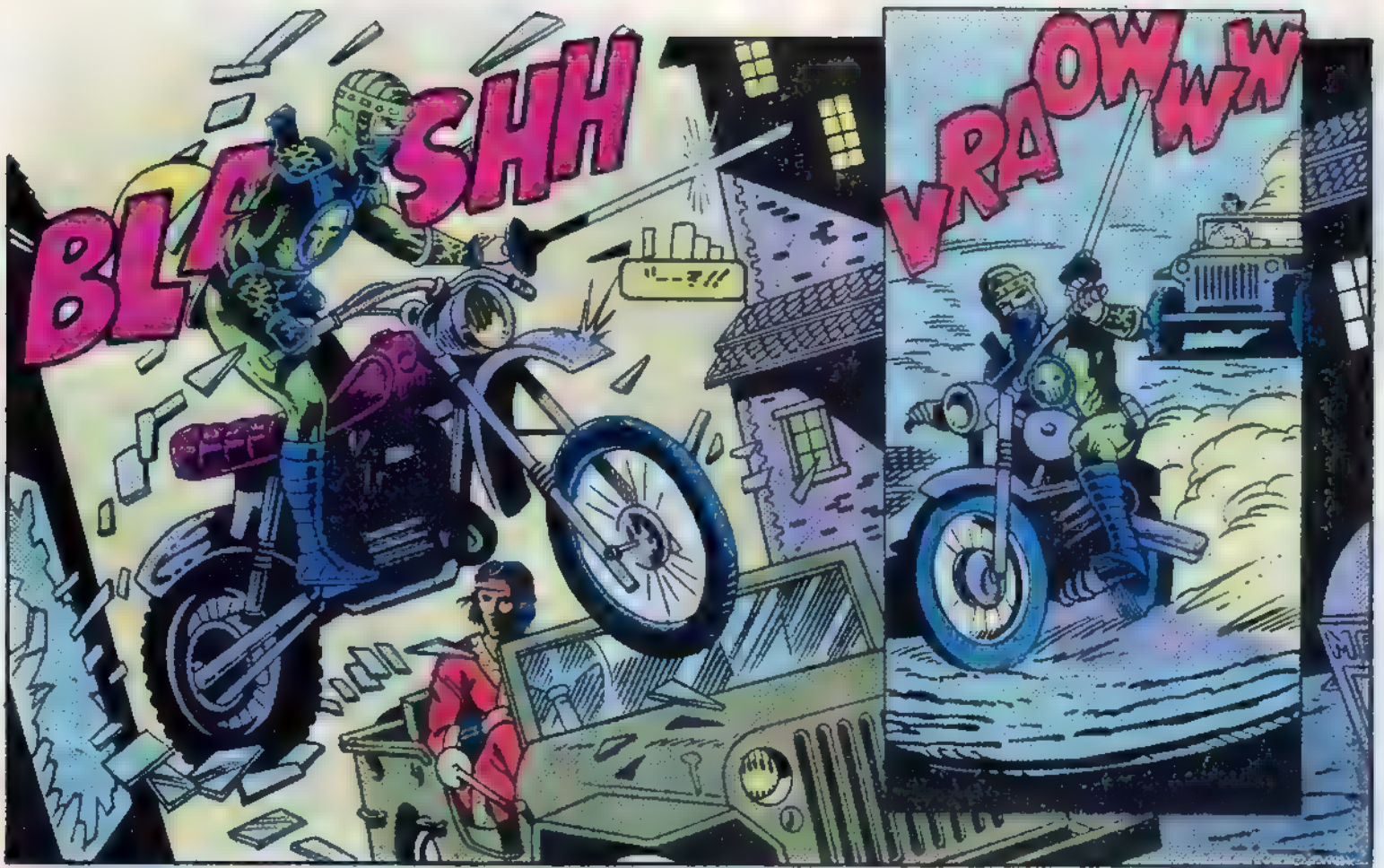


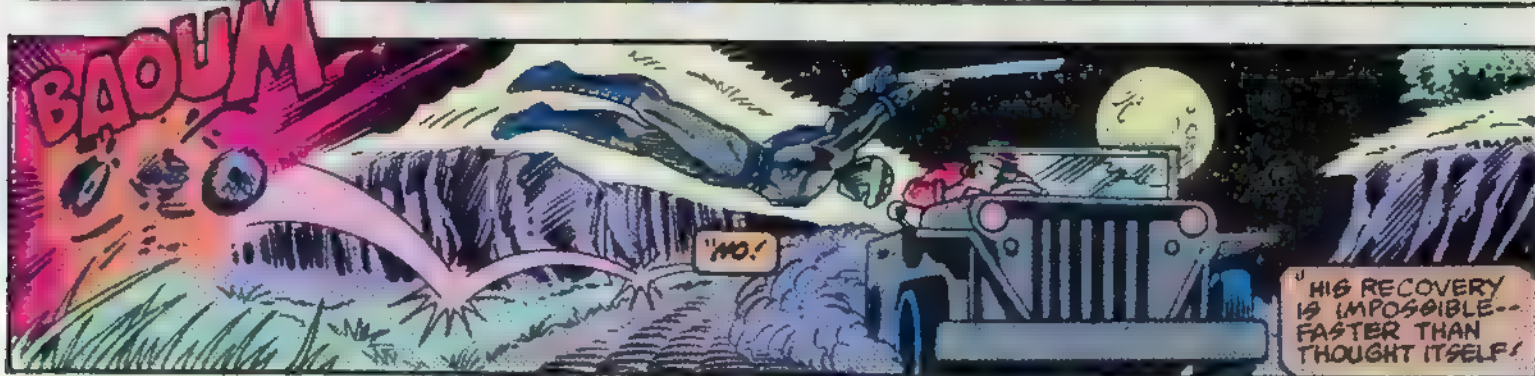
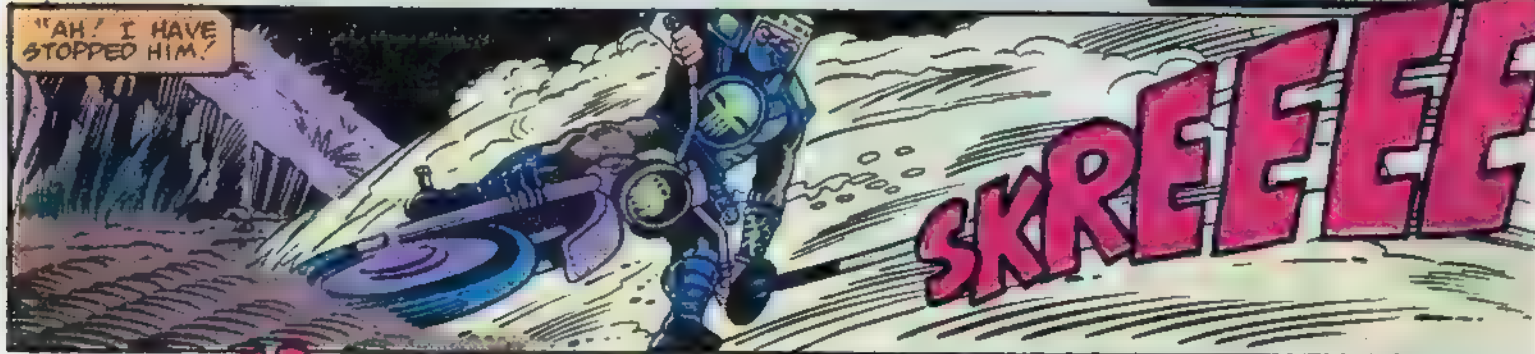
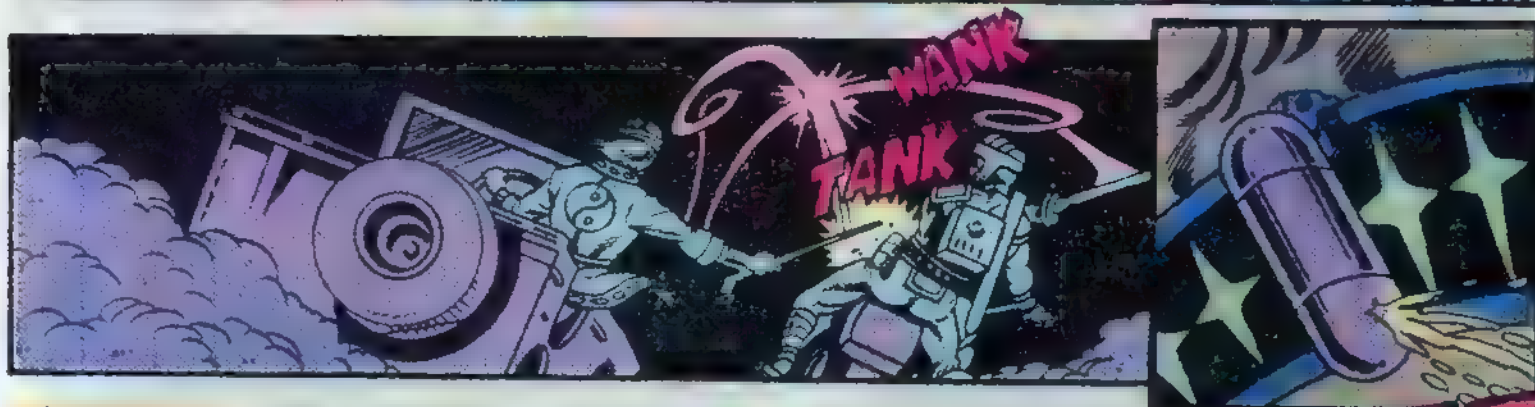
"I SAW HIM PLUMMET INTO THIS VILLAGE, HIS FORM CLEARLY ETCHED AGAINST THE MOON'S FACE..."



GADGE

"BUT WHERE--?"





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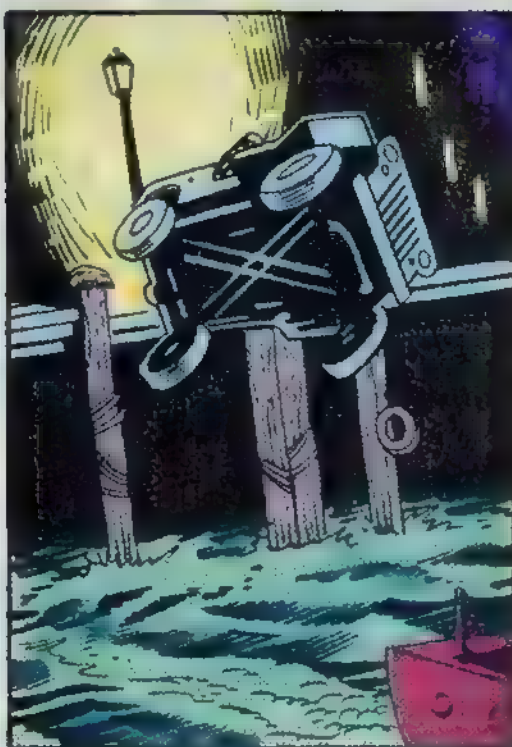
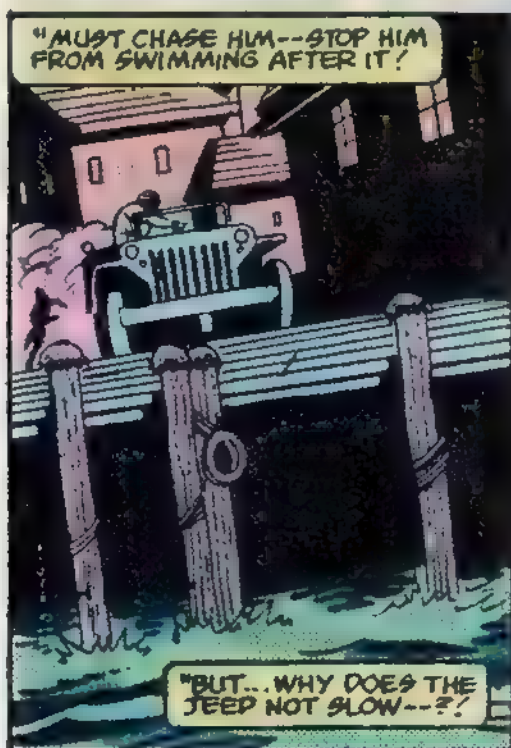
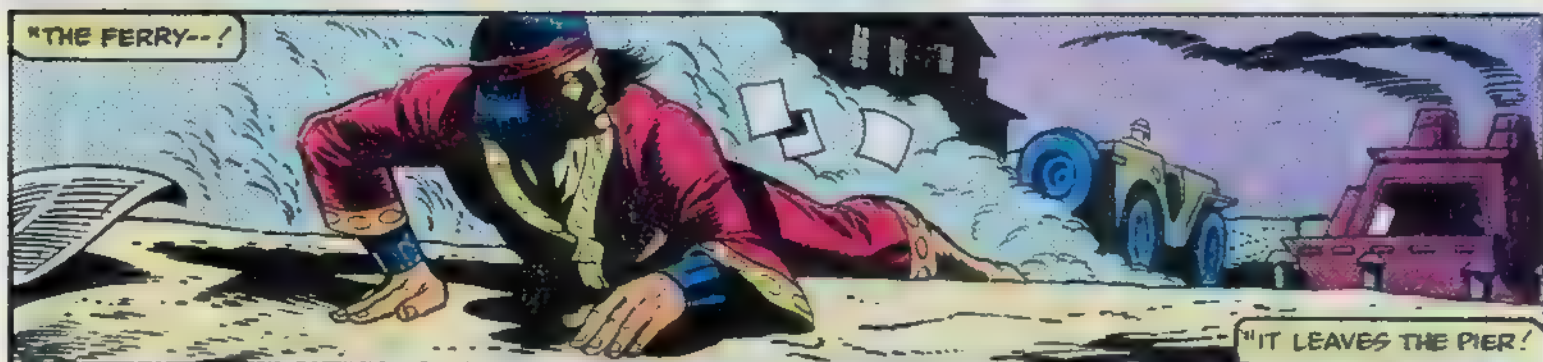
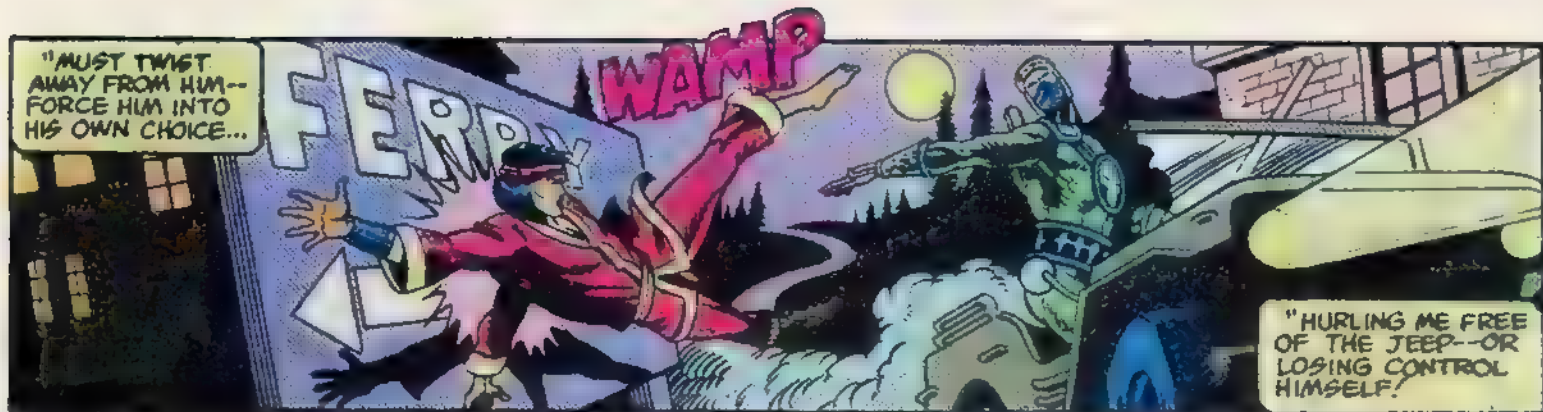


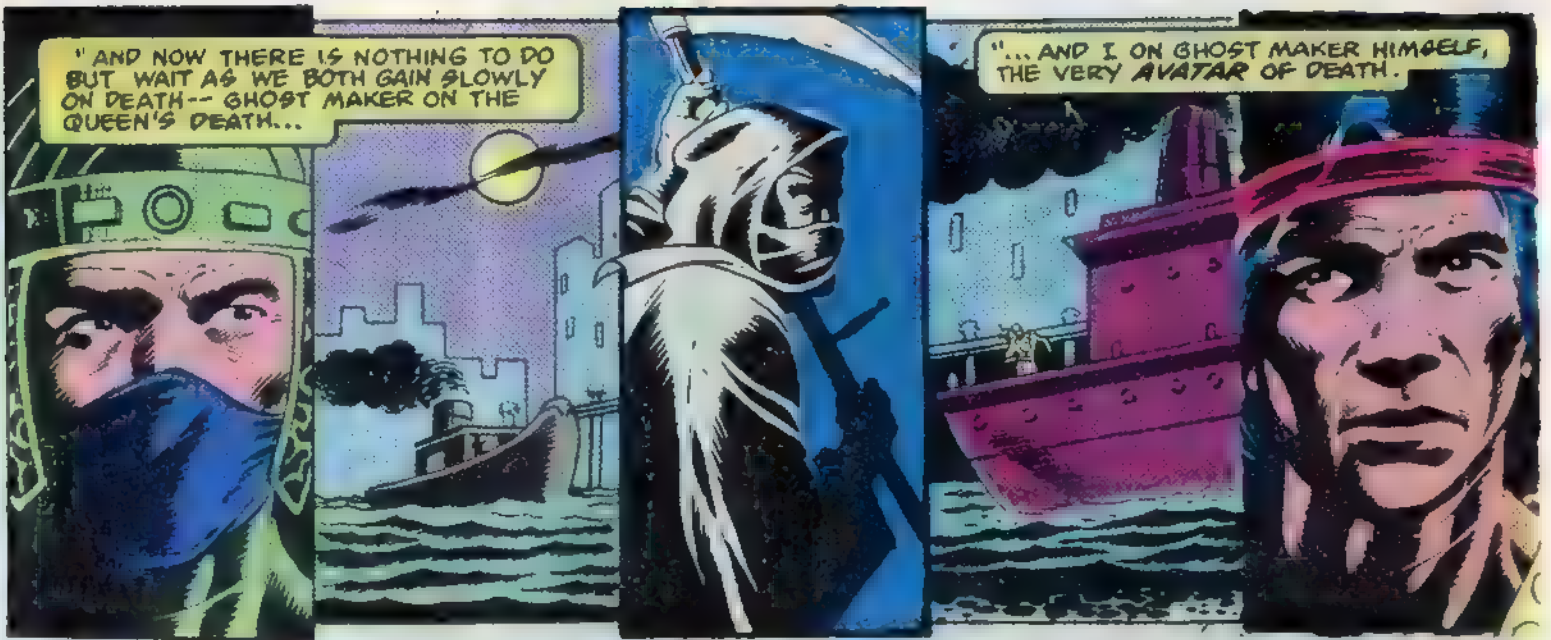
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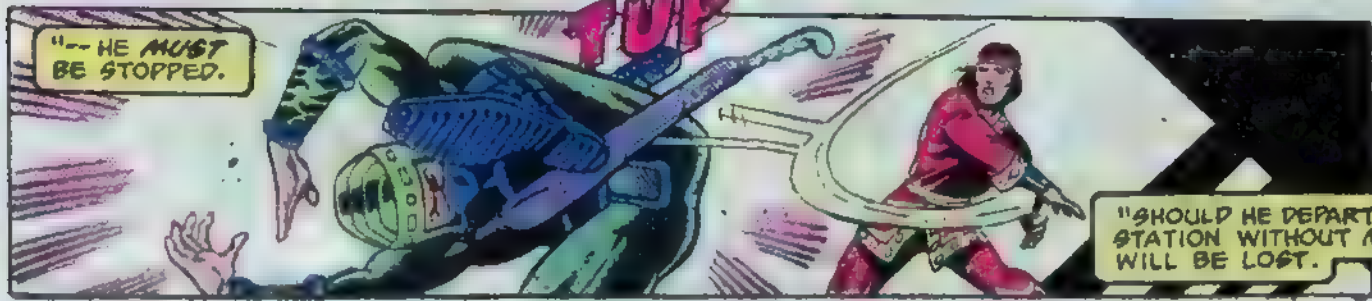


"WE DOCK AT CALAIS IN FRANCE, THE TUGBOAT MOMENTS AFTER THE FERRY. I CANNOT OVERTAKE HIM BEFORE HE REACHES THE TRAINS--

TRAINS



"-- BUT IN DESPERATION--



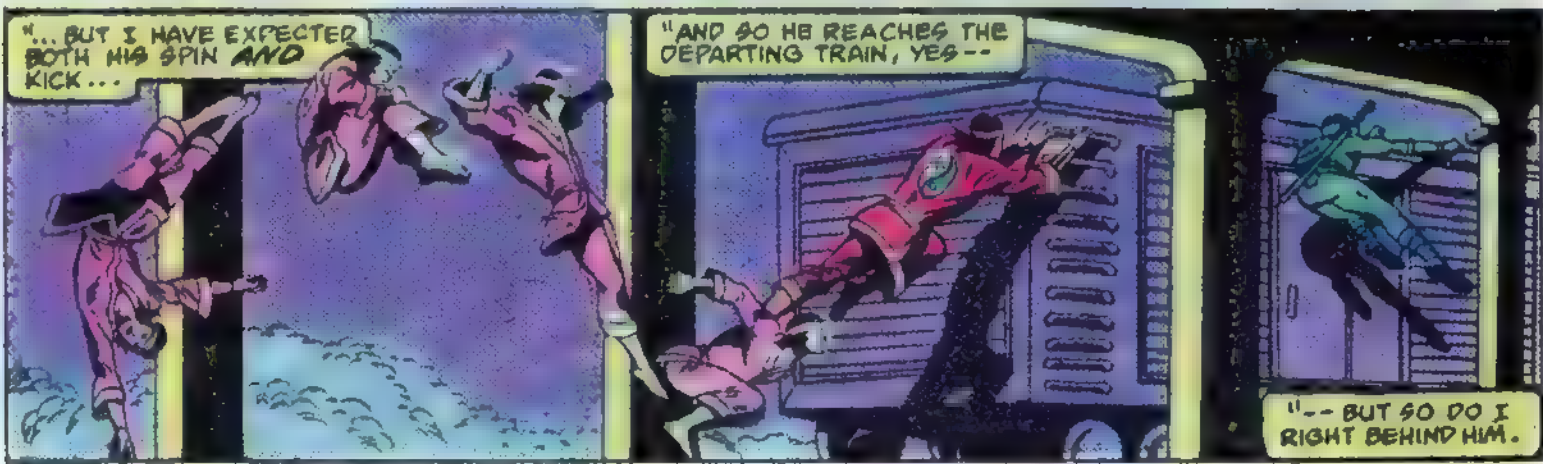
"-- HE MUST BE STOPPED.

TUP

"SHOULD HE DEPART THIS STATION WITHOUT ME, ALL WILL BE LOST.



"HE SPINS, KICKING, ALMOST, AS IF HE EXPECTED THIS DELAY...



"... BUT I HAVE EXPECTED BOTH HIS SPIN AND KICK...

"AND SO HE REACHES THE DEPARTING TRAIN, YES--

"-- BUT SO DO I RIGHT BEHIND HIM.

"THE CALAIS TRAIN ROARS AND
RACKETS TOWARD PARIS--

"--TOWARD A PARADE FOR THE
QUEEN OF ENGLAND.

"IT IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN
SOME THREE HOURS--THE LENGTH
OF TIME WE WILL FIGHT, IF NEED BE...

"... EACH STRIVING TO
HALT THE OTHER..."

"AS THE UNHEEDING
TRAIN SPEEDS
EVER ON AND--

AGH-N!

"MY BACK..."

"THE SEINE RIVER NOW LIES
BELOW, TRACING THE TRACKS,
BUT I CANNOT LET GO--EVEN
IF DEATH ITSELF LOOMS
ABOVE ME."

"THE GHOST MAKER MUST
NOT BE ALLOWED THE AC-
COMPLISHMENT OF ANOTHER
CREATION."

"MUST TIME
IT PERFECTLY--

"-- COAXING A THRUST
ONLY WHEN I JUDGE
THE WIRE TO BE NEAR,
BUT NOT TOO NEAR--

"-- THEN PARRYING
THAT THRUST,
SWIFTLY, ON MY
WRISTBAND--

"-- FORCING HIM TO
AGAIN RAISE HIS
SWORD JUST BEFORE
THE TRAIN CARRIES
US UNDER THE WIRE...

"YES!"

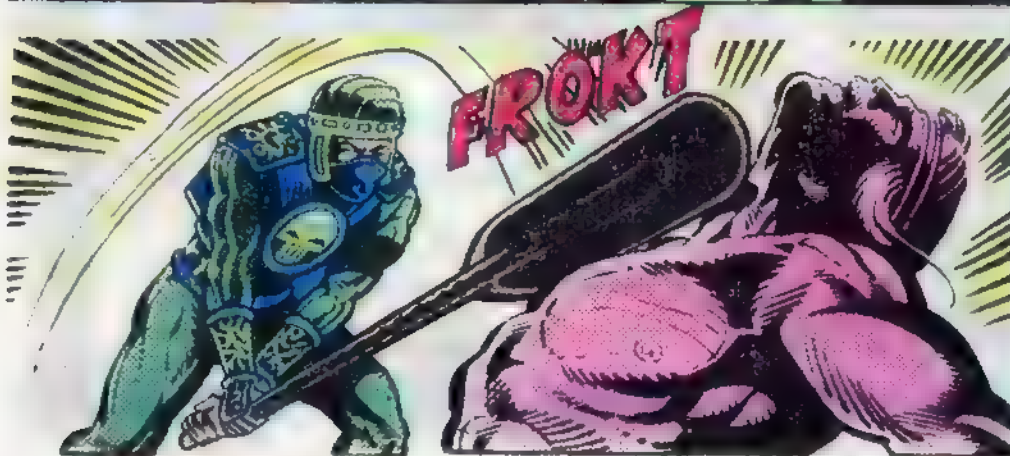
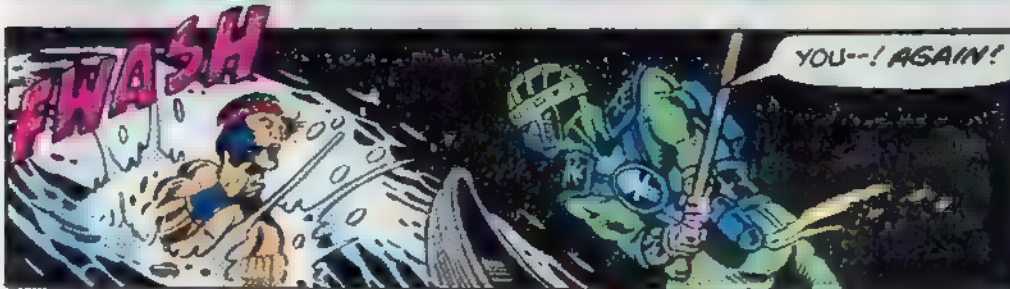
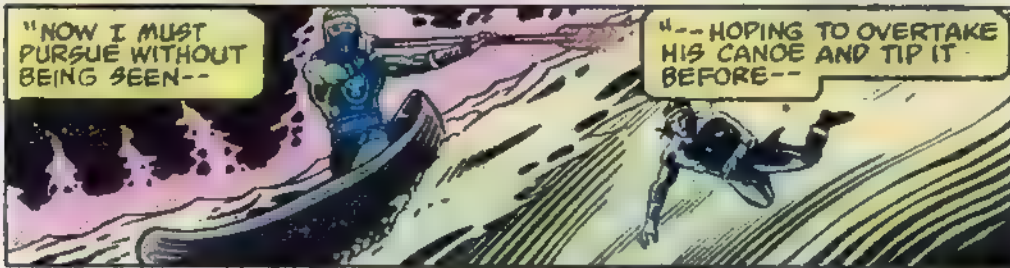
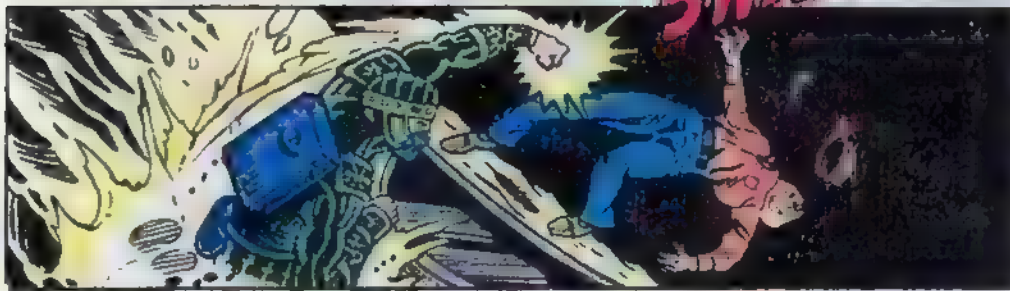
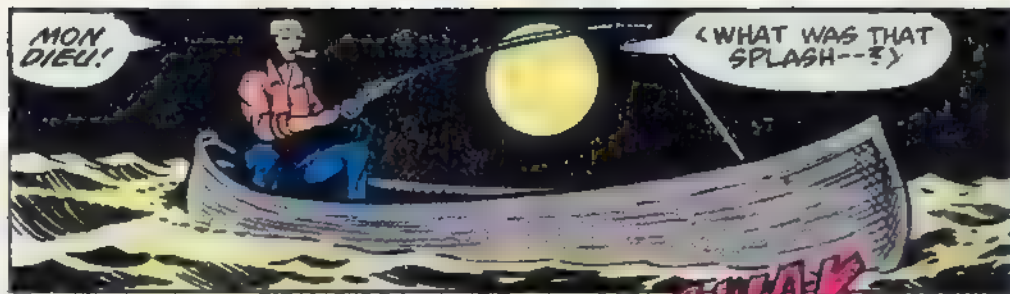
"THE TIMING
IS PERFECT!"

TWUNG

"HE IS PULLED FROM
THE TRAIN..."

"... AND DROPPED
TOWARD THE RIVER
FAR BELOW.

"I FOLLOW, VAULTING
INTO THE DAWN SUN'S
REFLECTED GLITTER.



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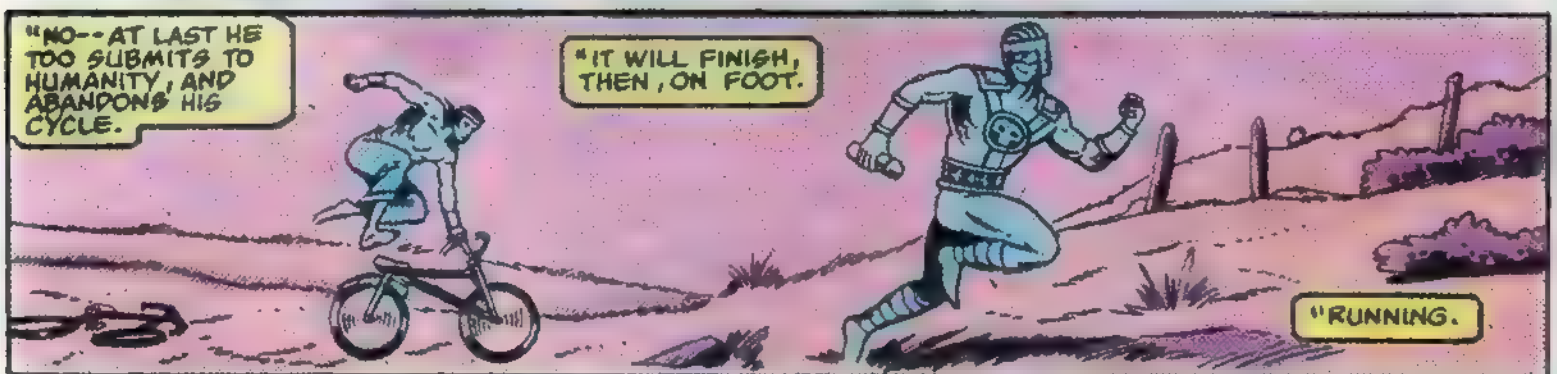
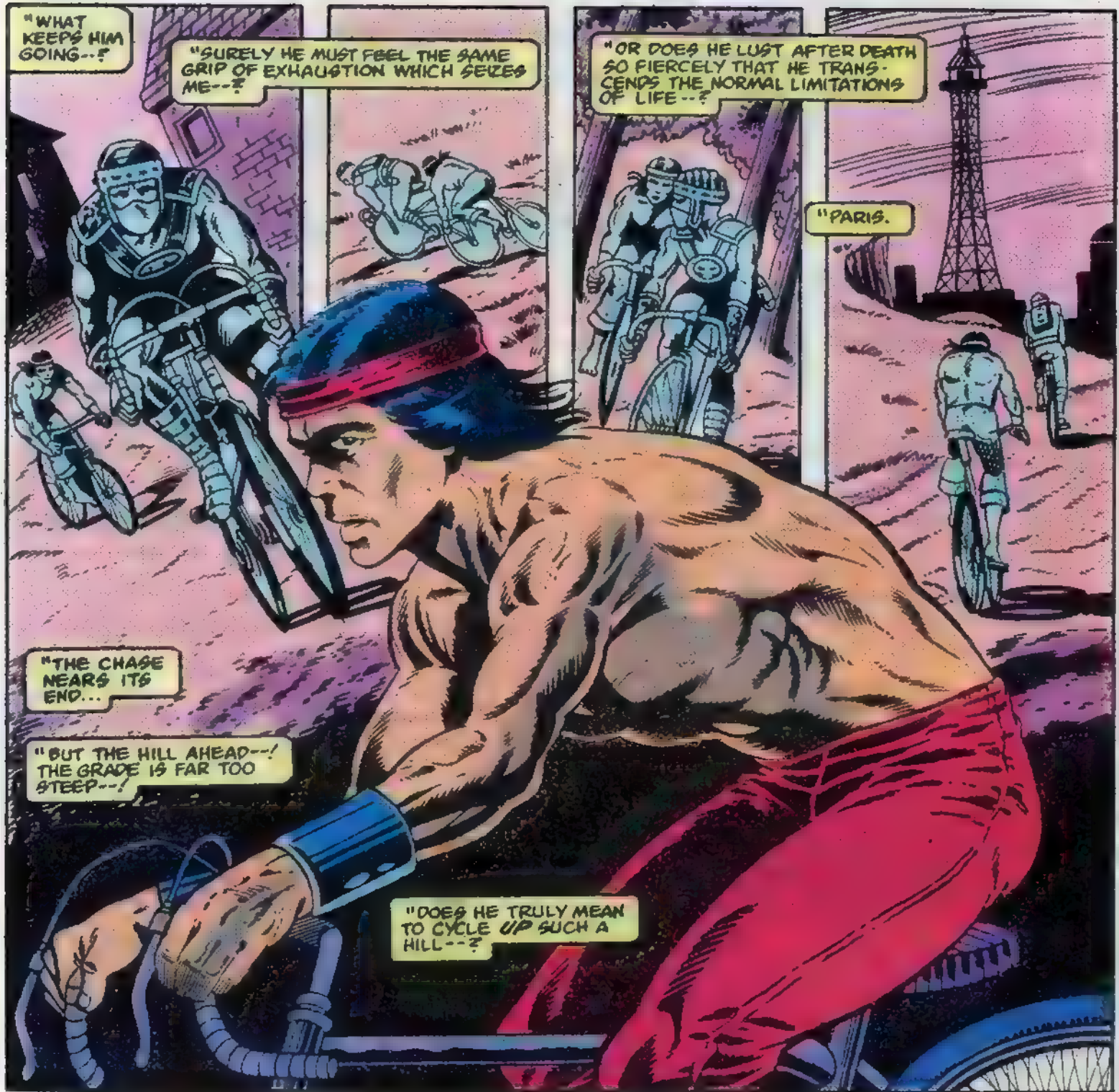
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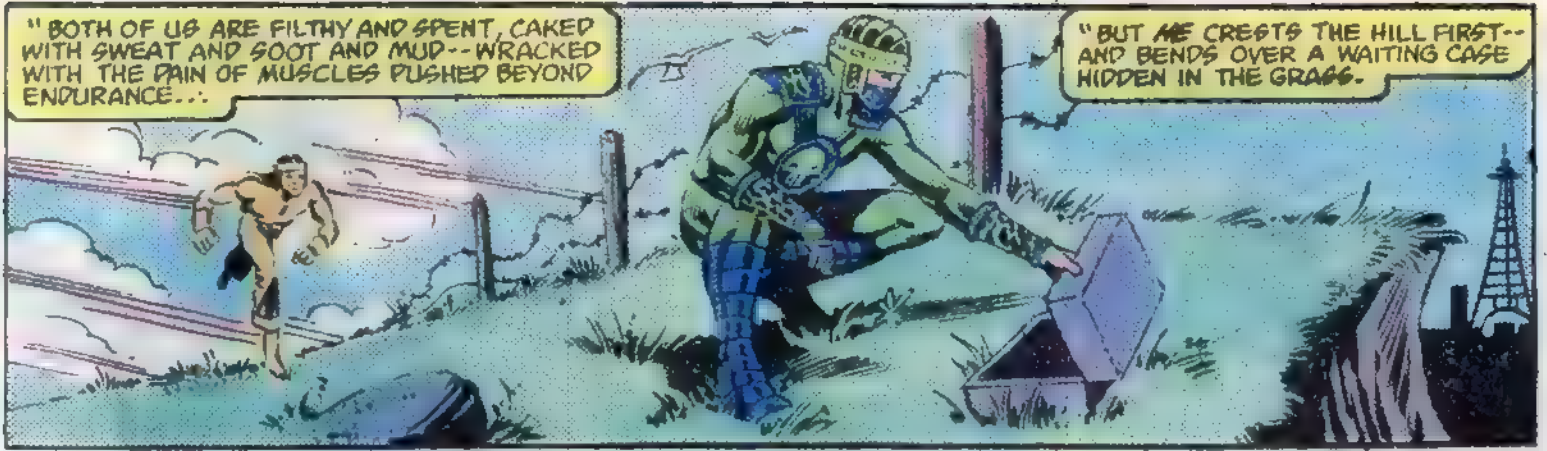
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"BOTH OF US ARE FILTHY AND SPENT, CAKED WITH SWEAT AND SOOT AND MUD--WRACKED WITH THE PAIN OF MUSCLES PUSHED BEYOND ENDURANCE..."

"BUT HE CRESTS THE HILL FIRST-- AND BENDS OVER A WAITING CASE HIDDEN IN THE GRASS."

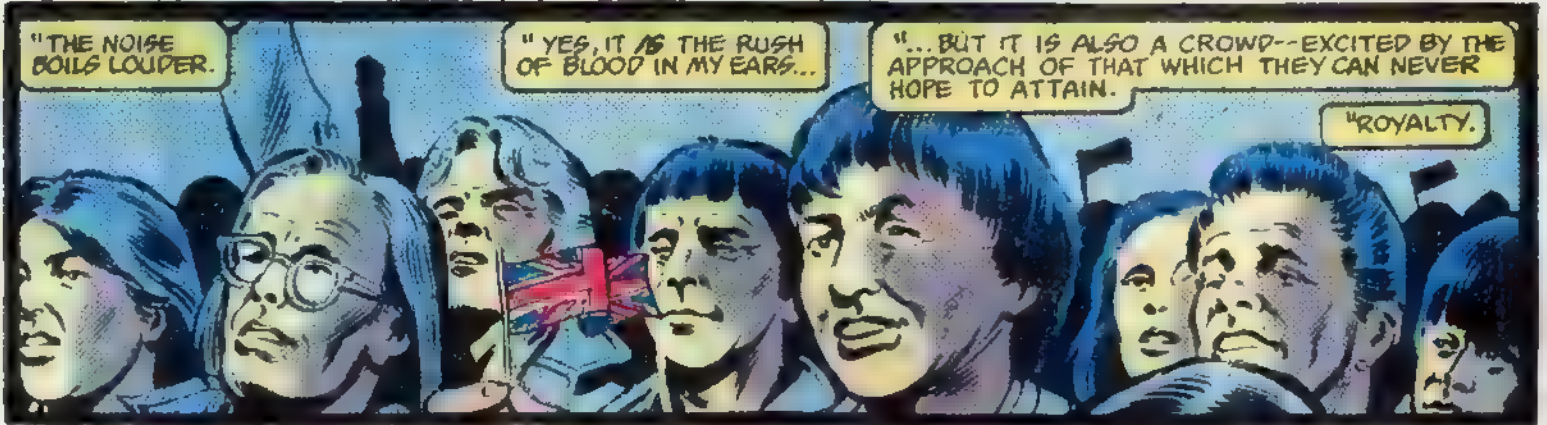


"THE NOISE BOILS LOUDER."

"YES, IT IS THE RUSH OF BLOOD IN MY EARS..."

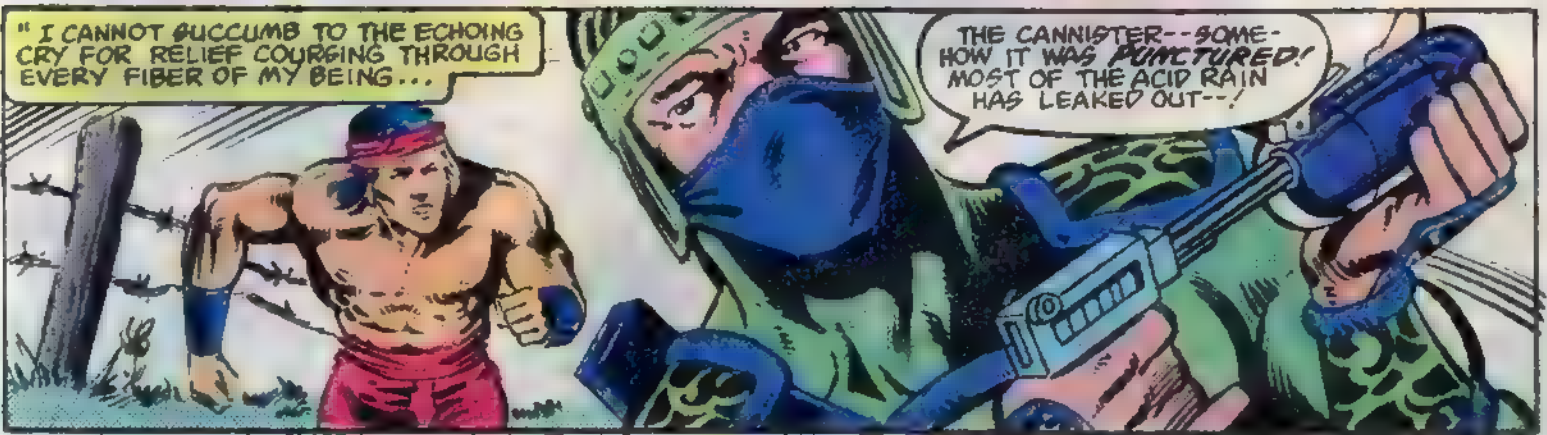
"...BUT IT IS ALSO A CROWD--EXCITED BY THE APPROACH OF THAT WHICH THEY CAN NEVER HOPE TO ATTAIN."

"ROYALTY."

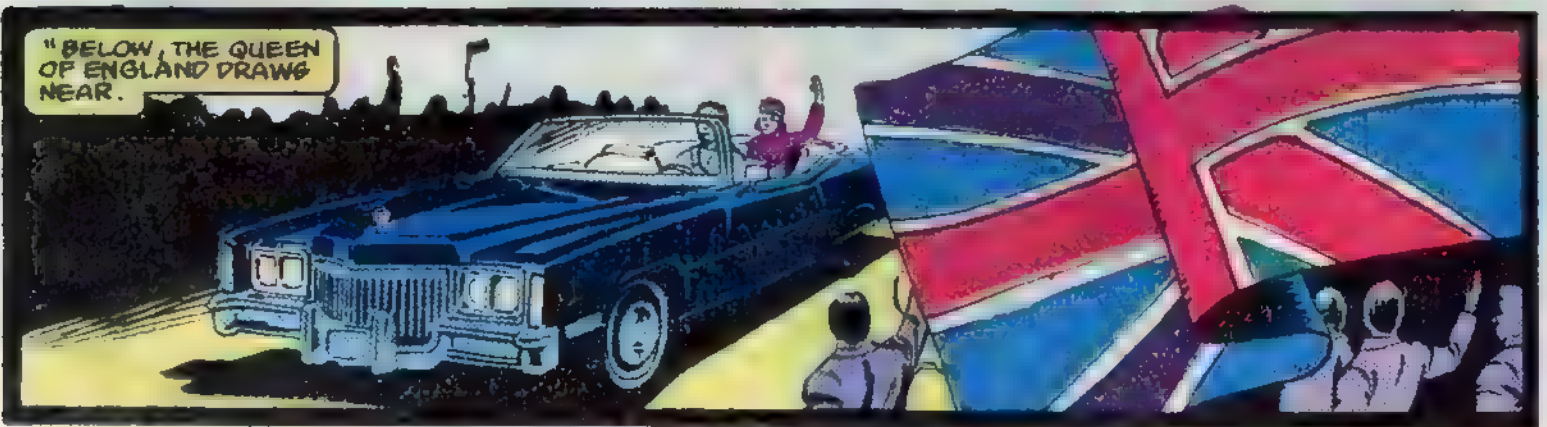


"I CANNOT SUCCUMB TO THE ECHOING CRY FOR RELIEF COURSEING THROUGH EVERY FIBER OF MY BEING..."

THE CANNISTER--SOME-- HOW IT WAS PUNCTURED! MOST OF THE ACID RAIN HAS LEAKED OUT--!

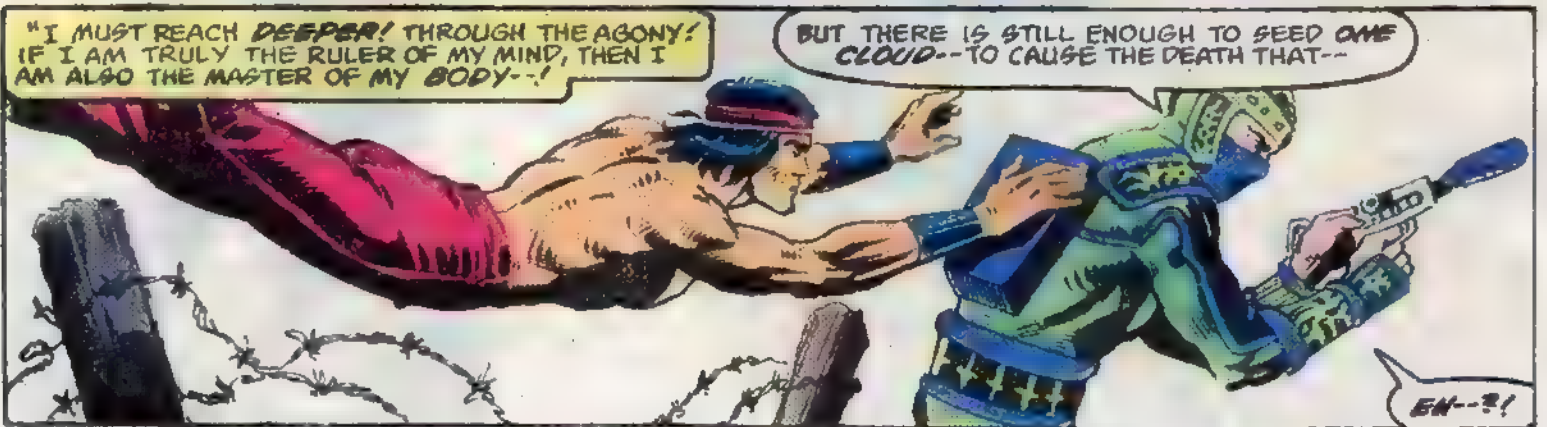


"BELOW, THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND DRAWS NEAR."



"I MUST REACH *DEEPER!* THROUGH THE AGONY! IF I AM TRULY THE RULER OF MY MIND, THEN I AM ALSO THE MASTER OF MY BODY--!"

BUT THERE IS STILL ENOUGH TO SEED ONE CLOUD--TO CAUSE THE DEATH THAT--

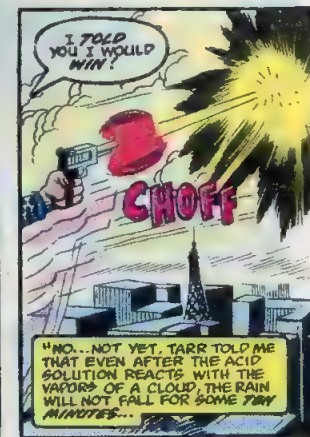
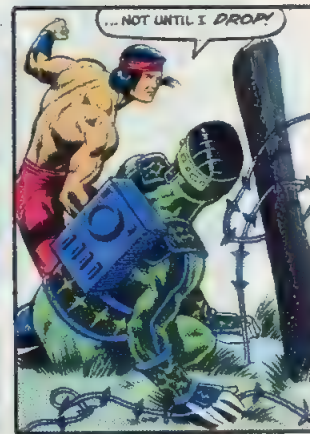
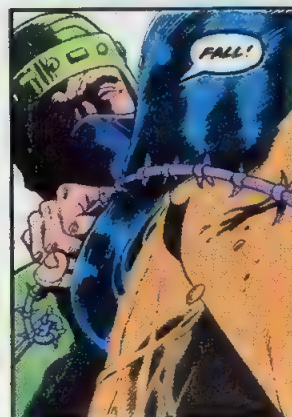
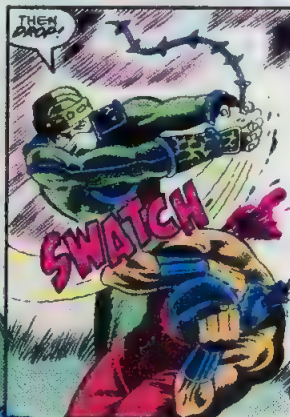
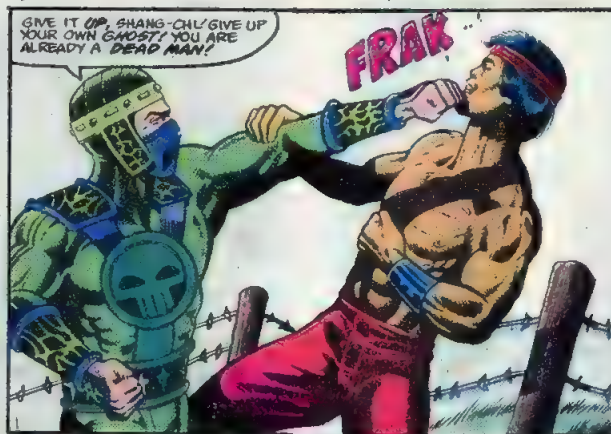


EN--?!

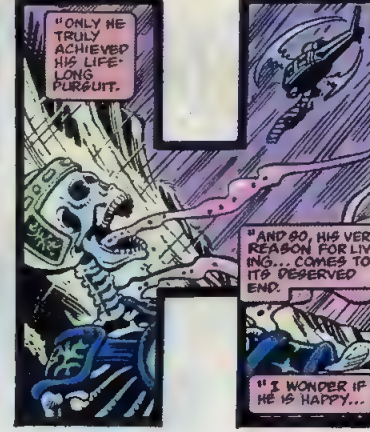
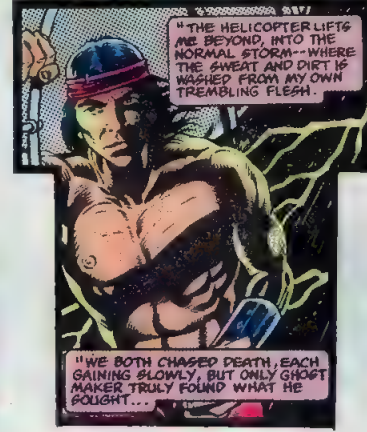
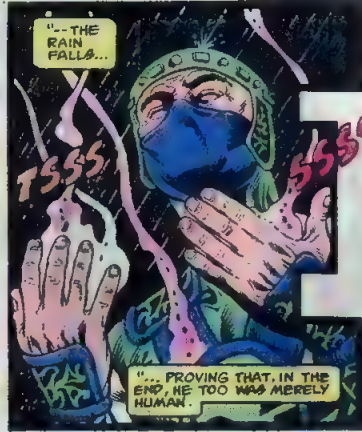
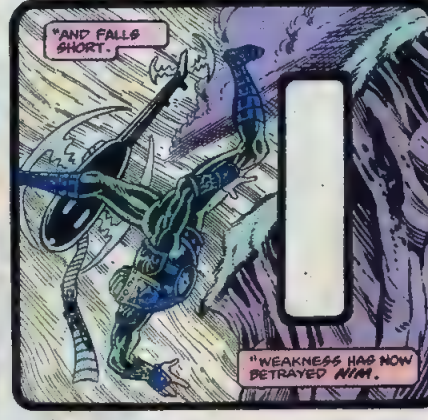
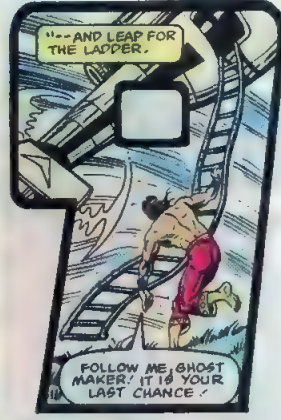
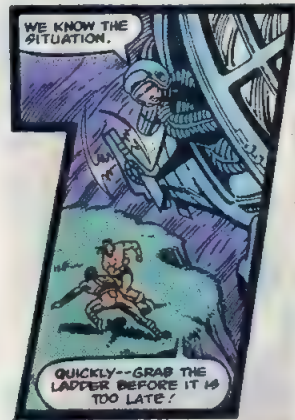
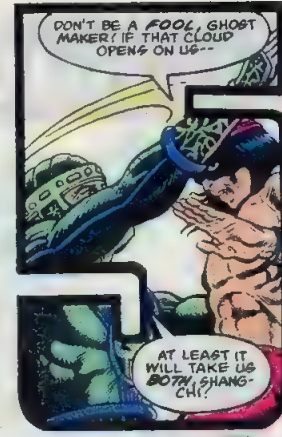
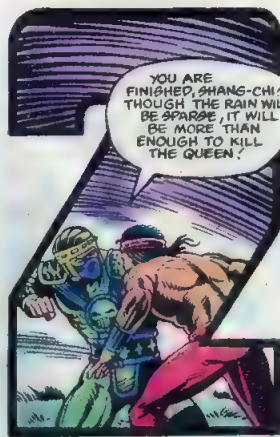
"AND IF I AM MY BODY'S MASTER, THEN I CAN MAKE IT DO ANYTHING-- EVEN PAST THE POINT OF DEATH'S SEEMING DEMAND."

"I WILL NOT LET MY HEART BURST-- WILL NOT PERMIT MYSELF TO COLLAPSE-- WILL NOT TOLERATE WEAKNESS OR EXHAUSTION."

"I WILL GO ON AND ON AND ON-- UNTIL, LIKE LEIKO CHASING HER GOAL DURING OUR SPARRING, I SHALL WIN!"



"NO... NOT YET. TARR TOLD ME THAT EVEN AFTER THE ACID SOLUTION REACTS WITH THE VAPORS OF A CLOUD, THE RAIN WILL NOT FALL FOR SOME TEN MINUTES..."



BULLPEN BULLETINS

HELLO, IT'S ME...

...Yes, I'm back again, the world's largest Polish Leprechaun, communicating to you through the magic of these funny-shaped ink smudges because I'm also Editor-in-Chief around here and that means I got to do whatever I want. Almost.

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE, DEPT.

Long-time readers can remember the days of yore, when, occasionally, an issue of one their favorite titles which was supposed to contain a new story would instead contain a reprinted story, along with an apology from us saying that once again we'd fallen prey to the "Dreaded Deadline Doom". That meant that the new story had not gotten done in time. Why not? Generally, it happened because the artists and writers involved, being human, got sick, lost some pages, had a creative block, got their due dates crossed, or were kidnapped by aliens for a week while they should have been working.

Has anyone out there noticed that Marvel hasn't had a single unscheduled reprint for over four years? It's been touch and go a few times, but we've never succumbed to the D.D.D. even once since I became E.I.C. Furthermore, we're now further ahead of our printing schedules than we've ever been in our Forty-odd years of publishing! How, you might ask, did I accomplish such feat. Well, gang, here's the truth.

I didn't.

The credit for Marvel's current on-timeness goes to Virginia Romita—Traffic Manager, keeper of the schedules and the records, who, through a combination of love, understanding, and guerrilla tactics keeps us all on the ball and on time. Too long has she been the unsung heroine of the never ending war against Creeping Lateness.

Mike Hobson (our Publishing Vice-President) and I are often praised and congratulated for Marvel's terrific progress schedulewise, but no one seems to notice the little lady who lugs that giant schedule book up and down the halls—the lady with the built-in lie-detector that can always tell "I'll have it in tomorrow" (meaning next week) from "I'll have it in tomorrow" (meaning tomorrow). It's time the record was set straight.

Thanks, Virginia, for all you do. You're the best Traffic Manager in the universe and a beautiful, wonderful person besides.

AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT...

...it's about time I mentioned the patient personage who typesets all these words of wit, our own charming Marian Stensgard—mainly, because, if I don't she'll get mad and hoo nose what shee mite due fur revenge?

OFF INTO THE SUNSET...

Tune in again next month when, in answer to numerous requests (no kidding) I'll explain what the word "Bulpen," as in "Marvel Bulpen," means. Also, as an added feature, I promise to run absolutely no pictures of Marvel Editors! Guaranteed!

May you find a pot o' kielbasa at the end of the rainbow!

Jim Shooter

JIM SHOOTER

THE HYPE BOX

Here's what we're jumping up and down about this month...

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #85 — The Thing and the Sandman go head to head for the greatest... conversation of all? It's the most off-beat and exciting character study you'll see in a decade.

DAREDEVIL #181 — Special double-sized issue that'll have all fandom gasping for months! Bullseye vs. Elektra! One wins... one dies! Don't miss this FRANK MILLER/KLAUS JANSON shocker!

MARVEL TALES #138 — Reprinting — in its entirety — Amazing Spider-Man #1 by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO!

WHAT IF? #32 — "What if the Avengers Were the Fawns of Korvac?", featuring all of Marvel's cosmic heavies including Galactus, the Watcher, the Stranger, the Celestials, the Grand Master, and the High Evolutionary. Oh yeah—it's got the Avengers, too. Written and layed-out by MARK GRUENWALD with pencils by GREG LAROCQUE.

BIZARRE ADVENTURES #30 — Because you demanded it: the return of *Paradox!* Co-produced by BILL MANTLO, MIKE VOSSBURG, and JOE JUSKO.

MARVEL GRAPHIC NOVEL #1 — Join us as we usher in a new era of pictorial story-telling with this, the first of Marvel's new Graphic Novel series. To get things off to a startling beginning, we've got the long-awaited epic entitled, "The Death Of Captain Marvel!" Written and drawn by JIM STAR-LIN, this 48-page squarebound trade paperback will be beautifully printed in full-color on high quality paper. It'll sell for \$4.95 and be available in comics shops only. We think you'll find the price—and the search—worth the trouble. We know you will.

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

- ☐ **MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #85** — The Thing and the Sandman in a moving, off-beat tale.
- ☐ **SPIDER-WOMAN #43**
- ☐ **DAZZLER #14**
- ☐ **KA-ZAR #13**
- ☐ **DENNIS THE MENACE #8**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #181** — Special double-sized issue!
- ☐ **GIANT SILVER SURFER #1** — This time for sure!
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #227**
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #268**
- ☐ **THOR #318**
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #40**
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER #67**
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT #18**
- ☐ **DR. STRANGE #52**
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #270**
- ☐ **AVENGERS #218**
- ☐ **CONAN #133**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #138** — Reprinting in its entirety... Amazing Spider-Man #1 by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO
- ☐ **X-MEN #156**
- ☐ **ROM #29**
- ☐ **POWER MAN/IRON FIST #80**
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #241**
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP #116** — Spider-Man, the Valkyrie, and the mighty Thor!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #157**
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #65**
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #106**
- ☐ **STAR WARS #58**
- ☐ **MASTER OF KUNG FU #111**
- ☐ **WHAT IF? #32** — Featuring the Avengers, Galactus, the Watcher, the Celestials, the Stranger, the Grand-Master, and the High Evolutionary! Whew!

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **CRAZY #84** — An American Werewolf in London, the Tonot Show, and lots more funny stuff!
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #74**
- ☐ **BIZARRE ADVENTURES #30** — The return of *Paradox!*

SPECIAL EVENTS

- ☐ **MARVEL GRAPHIC NOVEL #1** — THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN MARVEL. The beginning of a new era in pictorial storytelling (see Hype Box for details).

OKAY, GUYS, NOBODY LEAVES TILL I FIND OUT WHAT WE'RE DOING STRUNG OUT ALONG THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE LIKE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS! WITH HATS ON, YET!



DENNIS J. O'NEIL

VELL, COMRADE DENNY, HERE MIT CUTESKI HATS, COMRADE BIG JIMSKI IS VANTING TO MAKINK US FAMOUS!



ALLEN MILGROM

SORRY, FOLKS, BUT I WON'T DON A CHAPEAU FOR ANYBODY! BESIDES, I'M ALREADY FAMOUS! I'VE BEEN SEEN WITH VINCENT FURNIER!



JIM SALICRUP

YOU TALKIN' TO ME? YOU MAKIN' FUN OF MY HAT? YOU WANT ME TO SINK YOUR BATTLESHIPS?



LARRY HAMA

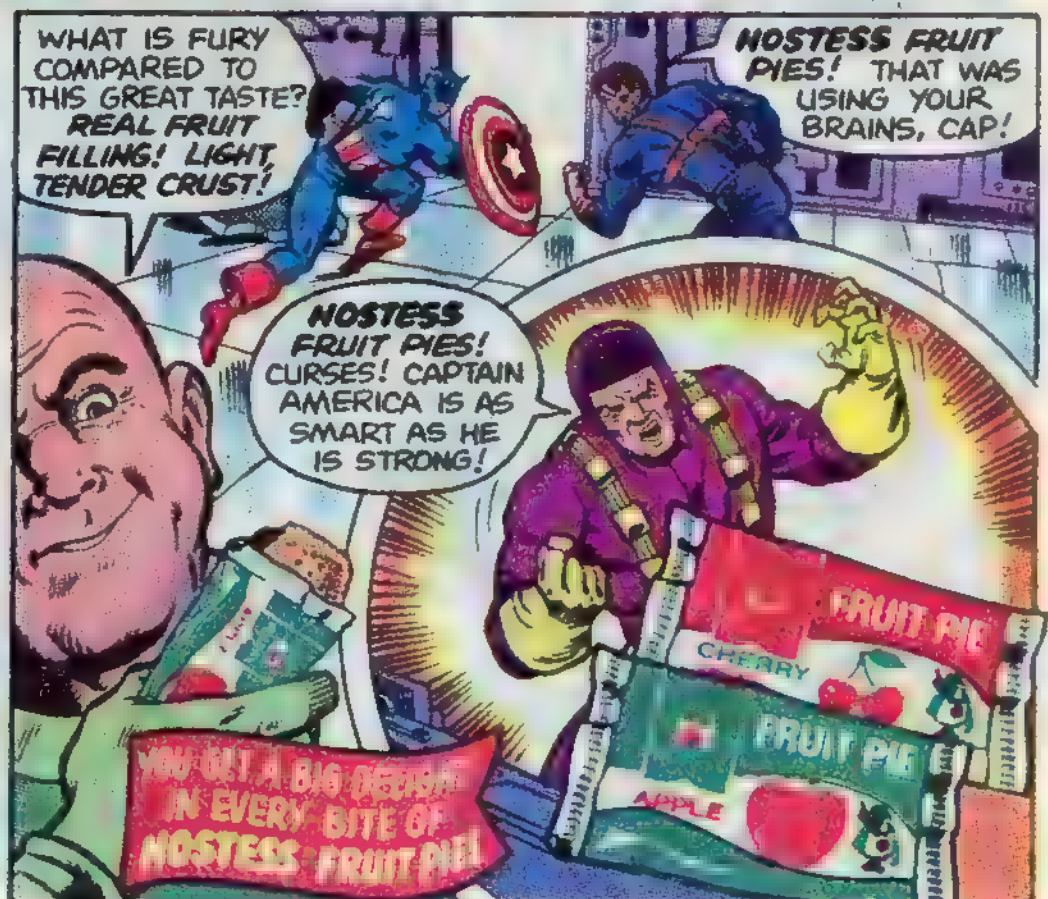
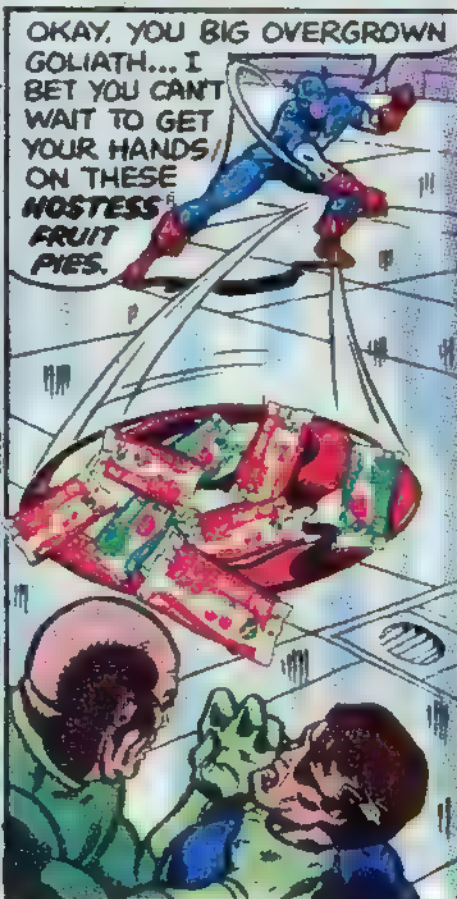
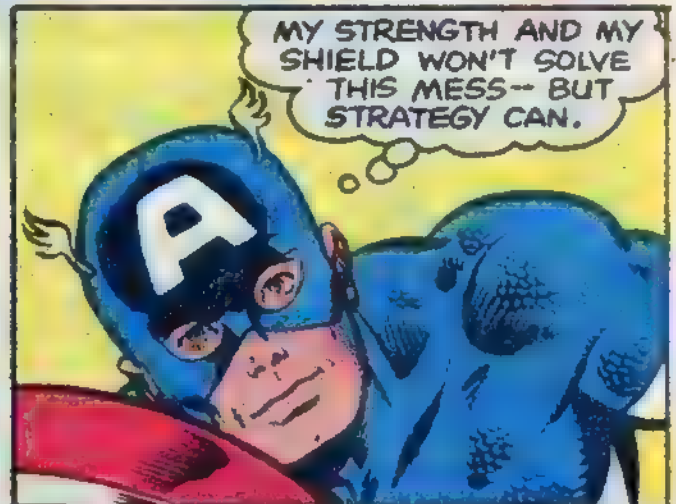
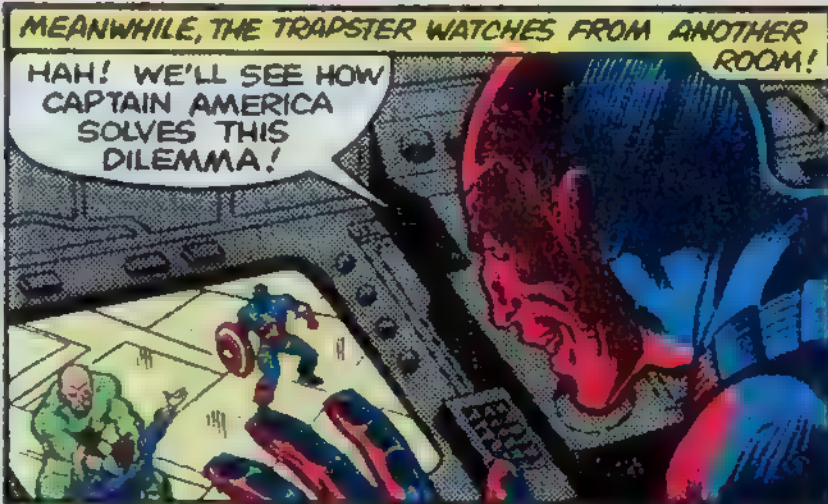
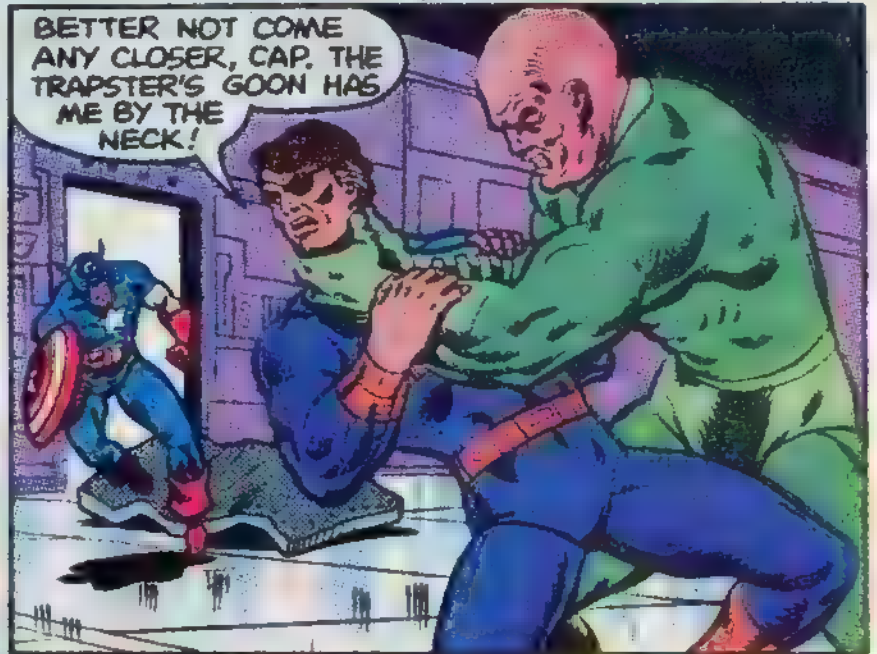
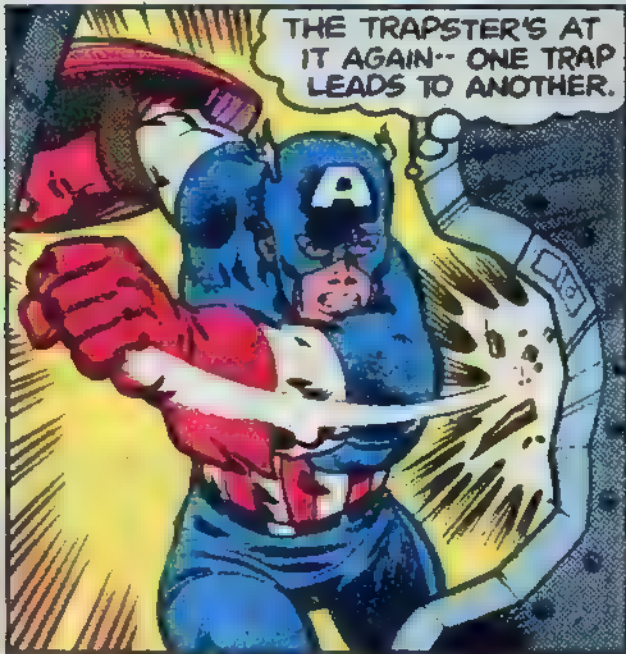
UH, RIGHT, LARRY...

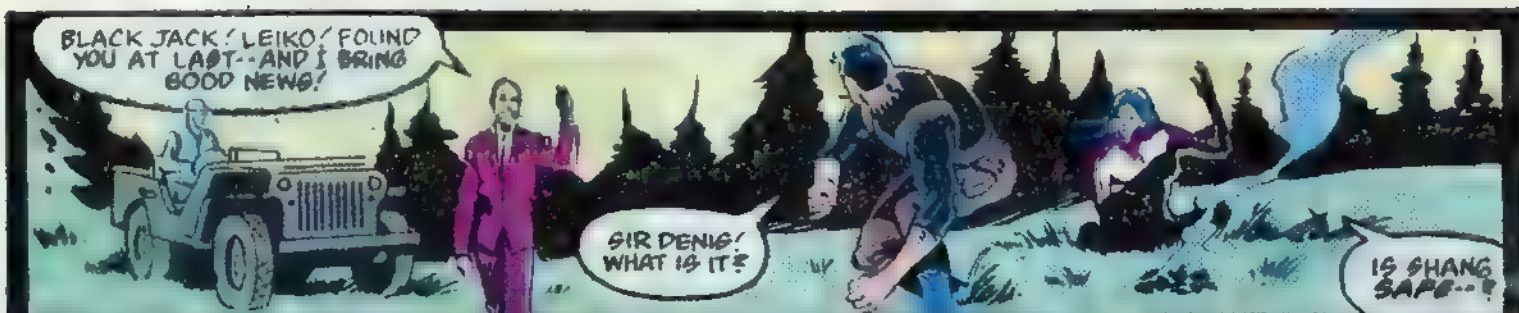
AND BY THE WAY, FOLKS—THIS ISN'T MY FACE! IT'S A MASK! MY IDENTITY MUST REMAIN SECRET TO PROTECT MY LOVED ONES.



TOM DeFALCO?

CAPTAIN AMERICA™ IN "FURY UNLEASHED!"





BLACK JACK / LEIKO / FOUND YOU AT LAST--AND I BRING GOOD NEWS!

SIR DENIS! WHAT IS IT?

IS SHANG SAFE--?



WE JUST HEARD FROM INTERPOL THAT THE ATTEMPT ON THE QUEEN'S LIFE FAILED.

APPARENTLY, SHANG-CHI WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THAT FAILURE--AND YES, HE'S WEARY BUT WELL.

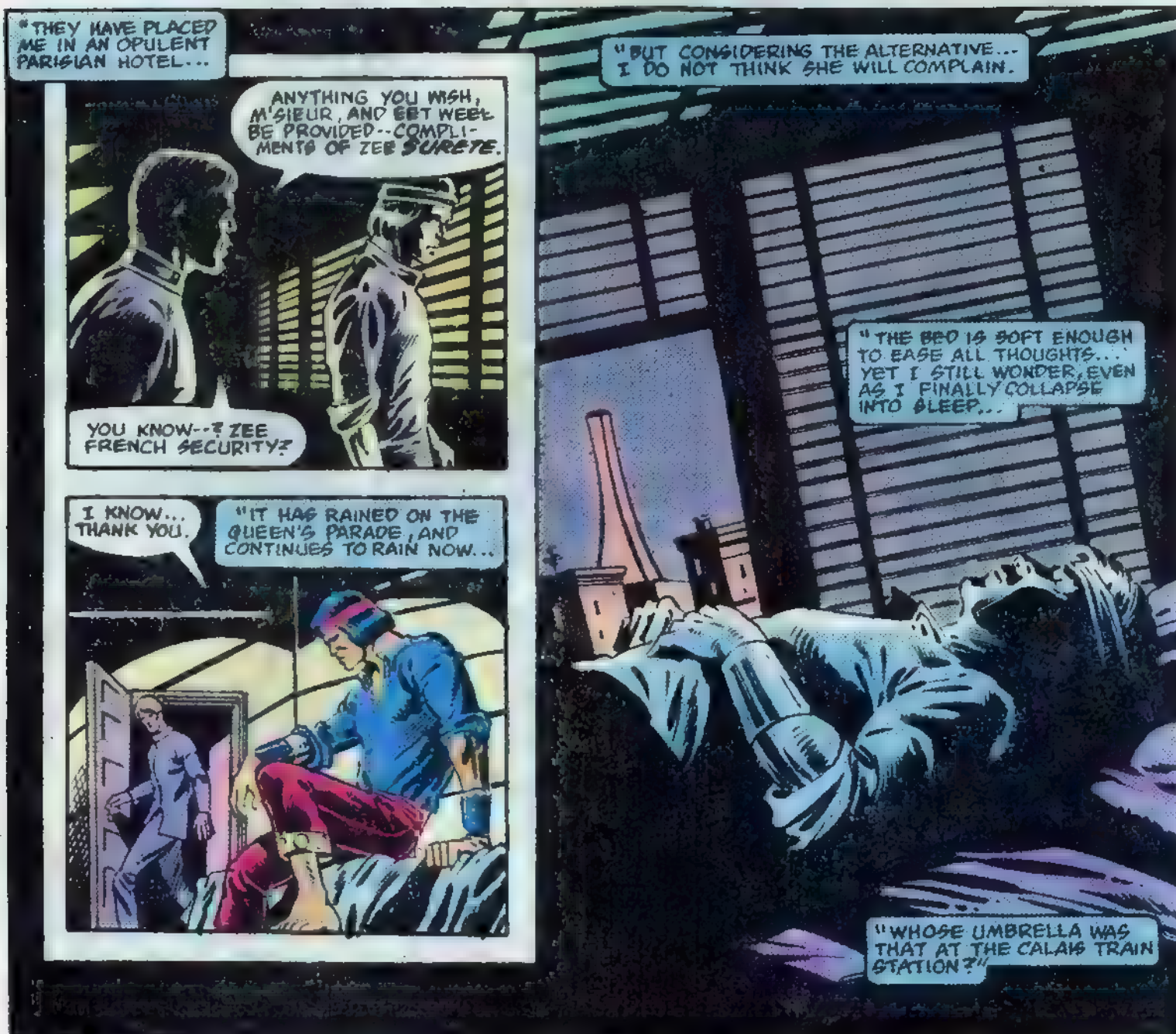
THEN THE CHINAMAN BLOODY WELL DID IT!



STILL MAD AT HIM, WU?

I NEVER WAS, BLACK JACK, NOT REALLY...BUT IT WAS A GOOD WAY TO MAKE HIM MOVE.

HAH!



*THEY HAVE PLACED ME IN AN OPULENT PARISIAN HOTEL...

"BUT CONSIDERING THE ALTERNATIVE... I DO NOT THINK SHE WILL COMPLAIN.

ANYTHING YOU WISH, M'SIEUR, AND EET WEE BE PROVIDED--COMPLIMENTS OF ZEE SURETE.

YOU KNOW--? ZEE FRENCH SECURITY?

I KNOW... THANK YOU.

"IT HAS RAINED ON THE QUEEN'S PARADE, AND CONTINUES TO RAIN NOW...

"THE BED IS SOFT ENOUGH TO EASE ALL THOUGHTS... YET I STILL WONDER, EVEN AS I FINALLY COLLAPSE INTO SLEEP...

"WHOSE UMBRELLA WAS THAT AT THE CALAIS TRAIN STATION?"

MISSIVES TO THE MASTER!

© MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

EDITOR
RALPH MACCHIO

Dear Doug and Gene,

Doug pulls no punches in his execution of what will come to be known as the "Dark Angel" saga. It's as moody as it should be, and embellished with unexpected twists to make it even better. Nuns that aren't really nuns, defectors that aren't really defectors but really are defectors after all, hollow seduction, blown covers, phony disguises... this kind of stuff keeps me panting for more! And imagery! Cold stone, hard steel, black hearts, bloody hands, and all in color for six dimes.

Sorry if I got emotional for a minute there, but I can't help myself. When you're talking about something great, you gotta get excited. And excitement is what this comic is all about, right?

Keep this storyline going for another year and you've got a fan forever

Glenn Dressler
RR #2 Box 191AA
Kankakee, Ill. 60901

Thanks, Glenn. While we have no plans for a year-long (i.e. uninterrupted) Dark Angel saga, we will say this: Now that Dark Angel is, more or less, a new addition to our cast of regular characters, her story will continue to unfold on an occasional — but steady — basis. For example, she figures prominently in the three-part story slated to begin in #118 and to conclude in the special double-size issue #118. (And yes, there are indeed surprises galore...)

Dear Doug and Gene:

MOKF #109 sure did a lot to revive my interest in the characters who populate this series. The blind children will not be missed having been only a convenient construct in the first place. Melissa will not be missed much, either. She has always struck me as a vapid and shallow nobody, despite her noble heritage. And although she made one last cryptic reference to Clive's "tantric loving," I never detected the slightest spark of passion in her English demeanor. Now, on the other hand, I wouldn't trust this here Dark Angel any farther than I could throw her, but she better suits Clive's proven weakness for dangerous women. And, if I read things right, we won't have too long to wait on that score. This issue was certainly one for surprising revelations about good ol' Clive, wasn't it? Not only was he revealed to be a tantrika, but he made a distinct request for a music machine because, so help us Beethoven, he says he needs "a shot of rhythm and blues" now! Is there no end to these developments? Will young Reston buy a juke box next? Will he bop the blues, come down with rockin' pneumonia and the boogie-woogie flu? Will he twist the night away? (Er, come to think of it, unless Melissa was exaggerating, he already does that.) Well, will Mia's sister Prudence come out to play? Will we ever see the Siamese cat again?

Oh yes — the plots are nice, but it's the subplots that make it all so real. I used to read romance comics, but they don't write 'em like that anymore. MOKF is a sweet substitute. Long may it run.

Cat Yronwode
Route 2 Box 625
Willow Springs, MO. 65793

Gene just saw the Siamese cat last Tuesday, hangin' out with Rock 'n Roll Ruby. It, curiously, was wondering if it would ever see another Cat Yronwode letter again...

Dear Doug:

Tell me, Doug, is Sata's first line of dialogue in MOKF #107 in any way connected with the awful dialogue on the cover of #21 way back when? I can't help thinking that it is. That cover so impressed me with its bizarre tackiness that I kept it on the wall of my dorm room throughout my last semester of college; a vote of my friends easily selected it as the kitschiest cover dialogue of all time. No mean feat considering the competition.

I would like to think that it impressed you too, and that you set out to pay tribute to it. I find myself imagining that you made a bet with yourself that you could take even so stupid a line as "Eat cold steel, Pajama-boy!" and make from it something genuinely frightening.

Well, you did it.

It even fits in with the recurring theme of food running through the issue — and starvation, both physical and spiritual. Pretty neat. Even if it wasn't intentional, it's a great coincidence.

Finally, even after all these years, I find it hard to believe that my favorite comicbook is entitled MASTER OF KUNG FU. And it's all

your doing, Doug. Oh, I can't slight your co-producers; you've been blessed with good art nearly all along. Still, it's the writing that keeps me forever fascinated with this book. Keep it up.

Lawrence Watt Evans
1637 Lindy Lane
Lexington, KY 40502

Coincidence — ?! Believe us, the food motif, including the "eating" of cold steel, was definitely intentional. Fact is, Doug nearly went crazy concocting different ways to shove eats into the mouths of every character in the story — except Shang-Chi, of course. And when the bloody story was finished, our writer couldn't stand the sight of food for days.

As for the connection with the cover dialogue, we'll only say that #21 was Doug's very first (full) issue of MOKF. Other than that, it must be the sheer coincidence which eluded us in the paragraph above.

Dear Gene and Doug:

It is my belief that with the addition of Gene Day, this book has approached and will soon exceed the quality it attained when Paul Gulacy worked on it.

Mike Zeck, I'm sure, saved the book from being discontinued, and I really enjoyed his work. Gene, however, will soon make MOKF one of the most discussed comics of the day. Each page is a true pleasure to look at, and each panel is a gem. Terrific stuff!

Doug even seems to be re-inspired and his scripts are cranking up to the high gear of the old days! (Can Fu Manchu be far behind?) Enthusiasm, it seems, is contagious!

All in all, MOKF is again at the top of my list. Continued success.

Terry Fallat
2181 Navaho Dr.
Ottawa, Ontario CANADA K2C 3K3

Gracias, Señor Terry. Und so, with Mr. Day basking as happily as a mackerel-stuffed seal in the warm glow of thine ebullient kudos, forsooth and sacre bleu, we must bid thee a madzeal sayonara of clumsily mixed-lingual media. Until next month, ciao.

Huh — ?



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